

20000515.qrp v01_n822.qrl.20000515

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 19:03:09 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1822

QRP-L Digest 1822

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- 3) [70197] Re: Delving Even Deeper Into Loops
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- 4) [70198] Re: question for former (or present) submariners
by "K3GM" <k3gm@home.com>
- 5) [70199] Re: Recovering a Flooded Project?
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- 11) [70205] Loops; W4RNL; patience; FUN;
by S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
- 12) [70206] TenTec Qrp rigs?
by tailfeathers@juno.com
- 13) [70207] SMK-1 Lots of Fun - Thank You
by J38AL@aol.com
- 14) [70208] Re: SMiTe: Hunt begins Sunday!!!
by n5ib@juno.com
- 15) [70209] Re: SMK-1 Lots of Fun - Thank You
by David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
- 16) [70210] Re:
by Nv4t@aol.com
- 17) [70211] Re: question for former (or present) submariners
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 18) [70212] 4,636 Miles per Watt
by N10DL@aol.com
- 19) [70213] Re:

- by "George T. Baker" <w5yr@att.net>
- 20) [70214] Re:
by "Victor Blackwell" <victor@brecnet.com>
- 21) [70215] SMITE: SMiTe Smitten by QRN!
by Michael C Boatright <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
- 22) [70216] Re: SMiTe: Hunt begins Sunday!!!
by Pete Burbank <plburbank@kih.net>
- 23) [70217] Re: question for former (or present) submariners
by "Nick Yokanovich" <k3ny@toad.net>
- 24) [70218] [SMITE] -- no luck
by Joel Malman <malman@world.std.com>
- 25) [70219] Re: 4,636 Miles per Watt
by "Steve Thompson" <steve@xcvr.com>
- 26) [70220] SMK-1 Chirp
by james-rhonda@juno.com
- 27) [70221] Re: question for former (or present) submariners
by John AE5X <ae5x@juno.com>
- 28) [70222] RF exposure and twin lead
by joe lerch <jl@early.com>
- 29) [70223] Re: Source of RG174?
by "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
- 30) [70224] SD-20
by "E. Roswell" <eroswell@monmouth.com>
- 31) [70225] Re: RF exposure and twin lead
by Wb8siw@aol.com
- 32) [70226] Re: RF exposure and twin lead
by David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
- 33) [70227] Re: Loops; W4RNL; patience; FUN;
by john@nekenetwork.com
- 34) [70228] Re: Writer Scratchi
by George F Franklin <w0av@juno.com>
- 35) [70229] Re: TenTec Qrp rigs?
by Curt Milton <wb8yyy@yahoo.com>
- 36) [70230] Re: RF exposure and twin lead
by Wb8siw@aol.com
- 37) [70231] I Need A QRP-Feast Ticket!
by "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
- 38) [70232] Re: SMiTe: Hunt begins Sunday!!!
by Michael C Boatright <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
- 39) [70233] [Dayton] Walk-in encouraged
by Jim Stafford <w4qo@amsat.org>
- 40) [70234] Re: SMiTe: Hunt begins Sunday!!!
by Michael C Boatright <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
- 41) [70235] Re: HELP: Hammerlund, Not a QRP receiver? It is now
by Philip Karras <ke3fl@yahoo.com>
- 42) [70236] Antenna recommendations for a travel trailer ???
by Jim Apple <wb1dog@yahoo.com>
- 43) [70237] SMITE: Correction to the log

by Michael C Boatright <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
44) [70238] Stuff for sale
by "Scott Rosenfeld [N7JI]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
45) [70239] TiCK Keyers at Dayton Hamvention Booth #205
by "g.diana" <embres@frontiernet.net>
46) [70240] Mic connector source?
by Ken Paulson <kpaulson@earthlink.net>
47) [70241] Electric Fence Loop
by "John Nall" <nally@talstar.com>
48) [70242] Re: Mic connector source?
by "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
49) [70243] Re: Antenna recommendations for a travel trailer ???
by Ray Colbert <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>
50) [70244] Re: (no subject)
by Ray Colbert <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>
51) [70245] Re: Mic connector source?
by David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
52) [70246] RE: Electric Fence Loop
by Karl Kanalz <KKanalz@excel.com>
53) [70247] RE: Antenna recommendations for a travel trailer ???
by "Coote, Jay" <JCoote@ci.arcadia.ca.us>
54) [70248] Dayton
by Joe Smith <joe@joesmith.net>
55) [70249] Microwave Downconvertors & RF Preamps
by "Coote, Jay" <JCoote@ci.arcadia.ca.us>
56) [70250] RE: Barrie Gilbert - Inventor of the Year
by Karl Kanalz <KKanalz@excel.com>
57) [70251] Helix Antenna
by "baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com" <baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com>
58) [70252] Gilbert Vs. Jones & Armstrong/Colpitts Collaboration
by Karl Kanalz <KKanalz@excel.com>
59) [70253] Re: contact treatment for WhiteRook paddles??
by Allan G Taylor <k7gt@qsl.net>
60) [70254] Re: contact treatment for WhiteRook paddles??
by "ElectronicsUSA.com" <wpc@west.net>
61) [70255] SMK-1: KI6DS Builds His
by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@hotmail.com>
62) [70256] RE: Helix Antenna
by "Coote, Jay" <JCoote@ci.arcadia.ca.us>
63) [70257] Successful Dives and Surfacing
by Karl Kanalz <KKanalz@excel.com>
64) [70258] Re: Mic connector source?
by Gary Lee Phillips KA9NZI <ka9nzi@arrl.net>
65) [70259] Re: Microwave Downconvertors & RF Preamps
by Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
66) [70260] Re: Gilbert Vs. Jones & Armstrong/Colpitts Collaboration
by Wb8siw@aol.com
67) [70261] Re: Helix Antenna

by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
68) [70262] Re: Helix Antenna
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
69) [70263] Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
by Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com>
70) [70264] Re: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
by "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
71) [70265] 2-56 Nuts
by "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>
72) [70266] Re: HQ170 Alignment
by "Richard E. Robinson" <rerobins@email.uncc.edu>
73) [70267] Proper measurement question
by Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com>
74) [70268] PSK-20 on the air
by PDouglas12@aol.com
75) [70269] Re: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
by Michael Melland <badger@vbe.com>
76) [70270] Re: 2-56 Nuts
by Jim/Julia <w7ls@blarg.net>
77) [70271] RE: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
by carlos.caro@lmco.com
78) [70272] Re: Mic connector source?
by Gary Lee Phillips KA9NZI <ka9nzi@arrl.net>
79) [70273] >>> Last call - Dayton Hamvention Vendors <<<
by Michael Ostrowski <mostrowski@CreativeSolutions.com>
80) [70274] Re: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
by "Richard E. Robinson" <rerobins@email.uncc.edu>
81) [70275] DAYTON
by "Ken Evans" <w4du@bellsouth.net>
82) [70276] Re: SMK-1 Web Photos of my work
by "James P. Osburn, P.E." <j.p.osburn@ieee.org>
83) [70277] VOM wanted
by gsurrency@juno.com
84) [70278] RE: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
by "Hare, Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
85) [70279] Re: PSK-20 on the air
by PDouglas12@aol.com
86) [70280] PSK-20 from Small Wonder Labs, a betabuild review
by "Rod, N0RC" <n0rc@qsl.net>
87) [70281] Re: The cheapest S/A
by Wn4i@aol.com
88) [70282] Dayton QRP Hospitality Schedule Suggestion
by "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@hotmail.com>
89) [70283] Re: PSK-20 from Small Wonder Labs, a betabuild review
by Allan G Taylor <k7gt@qsl.net>
90) [70284] Test, Do Not Read
by "daveb1" <daveb1@azbz.com>
91) [70285] SMK-1 #'s

by "daveb1" <daveb1@azbz.com>

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 19:06:31 -0400
From: john@neknetwork.com
To: unlisted-recipients;; (no To-header on input)
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70195] Re: Loop!
Message-ID: <391F3177.5569618F@neknetwork.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks, Joel. And if this is the last "Dear John" letter I ever get...
:)

In fact I did use #14 THHN insulated wire and it's colored green. And in fact, no bull, my XYL told me there were a bunch of birds sitting on it this morning. And no, they weren't flipping and slipping upside down.

I think I've got a plan to get some more copper in the air. It will partially cover some of the house, but mostly the garage area. The loop will be a little odd shaped after this, but I think it will work fine. More of a square football than a loop.

Using the loop since last night, I have to say, this thing tunes a _flat_ 1:1 SWR on 80m and higher. I've never been able to do that with my coax fed dipoles. If I can get the extra wire up, I'm going to take down the wire monster that is my tri-band 80/20/10 meter dipole - I'll really have no need for it. This *should* appease the XYL and keep me from having to spend more time in the new tent.

73,

John, KB1ENS

hamjoel@juno.com wrote:

>
> Dear John: yea!! another Dear John letter...
> about ur loop ant.... If you have the room... if things are situated
> right... u might try a sling shot or bow and arrow with a spool of string
> bow hunters use to attach to their arrows so they can track deer after
> they are shot... I think the strength is about 70lbs before it breaks...
> You could shoot the arrow or lead weight over the tree tops and then
> pull some wire or rope over the trees... if u shot from a few locations u
> could make a loop or one long dipole or longwire....
> I suggest u do some figureing and then come out shooting....oh... use

> INSULATED wire... so the ant won't short to the trees when the trees are
> wet...
> think about it and draw some diagrams... U could end up with one or more
> superior antennas...and with the right color wire the antenna would not
> be seen...
> kella joel
> in maine
> with wire an rope
> in the trees
> -----
> YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
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> <http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

--

John Wagner - john@neknetwork.com
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Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 17:05:05 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jeff Furman <jfurman@ocs.net>
To: George F Franklin <w0av@juno.com>
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70196] RE:Ref: Transistor to Key Command TX
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0005141549270.14142-100000@ocs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

George, I think you want to use an NPN transistor, with the emitter grounded and the collector connected to the cathode of the final tube. The cathode swings positive when the keyer transistor is off. I used a similar arrangement to key the 20ma. current loop drive tube (I think I had a 6AQ5) for a model 15 TTY. This enabled me to drive the TTY from a TTL logic signal. (I'm omitting describing the details of driving the keyer transistor from TTL.) I believe a good candidate transistor for this job is a horizontal output driver transistor from an old TV set or monitor. They have breakdown voltage in the hundreds (maybe 1200?) of volts, certainly adequate for your rig. You will need to supply sufficient base current to be sure the transistor is saturated when it's on, and a definite zero volt drive to be sure it's off. An alternative is using an N-channel enhancement mode

power fet, which can be found with high voltage capability. The gate drive requirements are different than the bipolar NPN transistor, the fet requires voltage drive with negligible current at low frequencies (what's your preferred code speed, hi.) This is deliberately sketchy to provide you with hints, rather than a complete design, which requires additional information. I just remembered that the primary side driver transistors from off-line switching power supplies may also have an adequate voltage rating. Whether they are bipolar or FET depends in the particular supply design...
I hope this helps a bit.
73, Jeff KD6MNP

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 17:13:51 -0700
From: "n6wg:First n6wg:Last" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70197] Re: Delving Even Deeper Into Loops
Message-ID: <000301bfbe02\$73e717c0\$c2d7fc9e@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

John

I saw such a loop described in SPRAT recently. Seemed like a perfectly good way to squeeze one in where outside supports may be unavailable.

A frame house would not have much effect on the antenna. However, electrical wiring, plumbing, heating ducts and anything else that is metal and large could affect the tuning to a small degree. At worst even the radiation pattern might be affected to some extent.
Bottom line I believe it will work just fine.

I have had a horizontal triangular loop on my roof about six inches above the shingles, and it worked quite well. Finally took it down while doing some roof work.

73, Bob N6WG

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 20:18:37 -0400

From: "K3GM" <k3gm@home.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70198] Re: question for former (or present) submariners
Message-ID: <05b901bfbe03\$1dcfcc00\$246e0c18@adubn1.nj.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I check with my "bro" who served on the Alaska SSBN-732, and he says 3 to dive, and 3 to surface. He was quick to add that being on a "Boomer" he didn't hear that too much. He also added that the most important thing is the ratio of dives to surfaces is 1:1 (wise guy! ;-)

Tom K3GM

> Seems I remember a thread a year or two ago about submarine procedures.
> And if I remember correctly, Paul reported from New Mexico, that DIVE is
> accompanied by a klaxon sounding twice, while SURFACE is a klaxon thrice.
> Do I have it correct? Because the movie U-571 has the klaxon sounding
three
> times and the command to DIVE-DIVE-DIVE. Did we have a dose of reality,
or
> do I need to start taking memory pills?? Pls and tnx and best 72/73 de
alan
>
> Alan Kaul, W6RCL, LaCanada, CA

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 20:16:31 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <ka0gkc@arrl.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70199] Re: Recovering a Flooded Project?
Message-ID: <00db01bfbe03\$00be15e0\$902dfea9@dads-hp>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'd also like to add DRY IT!!! Once you've cleaned it, DRY IT before you power it. I dropped an Icom u4-AT from my belt one 4th of July. It stormed all night. The next day after lunch I found it in a puddle by the front step. It had been submerged all

night.

I opened it and 'cleaned' it up. I blew a hair dryer on it 'lightly' until it was dry and warm to the touch. Tried it. It was bonkers (And that's a technical term!)

Then I set a desk light next to it on the workbench for a source of 'warm', then set a computer muffin fan to suck the 'warm' and blow on the HT. For about 7 more days.

Turned it on, and it worked fine. That was about 1989.

I still have that u4 and it's been working fine (other than a crappy mount for the antenna bracket).

Mike
N1DVJ

>| Before I toss what I have, does anyone have any cleaning techniques that
>| might salvage the exsisting board? Do I even want to try? There's no
>| shiny copper left anywhere on the main board, but it's no pitted (as of
>| yet).

>

>Wash in warm soapy water, use a paint brush to scrub out the crevices.

Rinse

>in running warm water. I don't recommend putting it in the oven, the
circuit

>board might warp. Shake as much water off as you can and set the board on
edge

>in front of a window fan set to high.

>

>Recheck each section for proper function. Chance are very good it will
work

>as before.

>

>Hope this Helps, 73 de Cla KA0GKC

>

>

>

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 20:19:58 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70200] Re:

Message-ID: <00e801bfbe03\$516954a0\$902dfea9@dads-hp>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gee thanks,

That's the 5th time I've seen that letter, in one form or another.

And it get's a little wilder each time.

Mike

>>From: kc8aon
>>Full-Name: Rick McKee
>>Subject: Ham Radio for the complete idiot.
>>X-Status: New
>>
>>THIS GUY GETS THE DUMMY LOAD AWARD !
>>
>>To Mr. (name omitted) District Manager for AlabamaRadio Shack3300 N. Pace
>>BlvdPensacola, FL. 32505Dear Sire,This letter is complain about the
>>problems I have having with the ham radio model number 19-1101 I had got
>>from your company Radio Shack. I had this shipped special to me from
>>your store 1096 Eastdale Mall Montgomery Alabama. I was got this because
>>I think that i would get transmitt furthurthat I did with the TRC 217 40
>>channel walkie talkie.The problem that had first was when I was going to
>>hook this radio HTX-1000 to the antenna the conektor on the radio was
>>wrong it wouldn't attach to my cable. I was able to hook it finally by
>>making a small change inin the connektor. As soon as I tried to use it
>>there was no sound comingat all. This happened for two days and I never
>>did get to talk to anybodythe whole two days. That day the cable company
>>came knocking my door andsaid there was something causing problems at my
>>house and disconneked myradio from the cable line. you knew when i
>>brought the Radio that I was going to use that for my antennne. You
>>didn't tell me not to why not?Next time I decided to put the HTX-1000 in
>>my automobile I thought I wouldsee how it worked their. I hooked it to
>>my CB-antenna and at least I could hear people. But what happens now is
>>no one wants to talk to me becausethey says you have to have a licencs to
>>talk to them. Why? I dont have tohave a licencs to talk on my CB.
>>They'll talk to me there. Anyhow it dontmatter much anymore because
>>somebody done took the radio HTX-1000 from myautomobile. What I would
>>like for you Radio Shack to do is refund my money because I don't have
>>the radio anymore and its not my fault i dont and I think you should give
>>me back my money. Also the cable company here says that I hurt something
>>in there line and want to be paid fix it. It will cost\$27482.98 to fix

>>the equipment they say was damaged because you didntt tell me not to hook
>>it to the cable. Please remit to me the check for \$27758.53 for damages
>>due. To save this matter from going to court thecheck must be in my hand
>>by June first or I will turn this over to my attorneys of law.Thank you
>>name withheld
>>
>

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 20:23:03 -0400
From: Dan Benard <trackerdan@earthlink.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70201] Report:Ft Smith Paddle/TiCK Kit
Message-ID: <391F4367.A6E0DC12@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just got done building the Ft Smith QRP Group Iambic Paddle/TiCK Keyer Kit and thought I would pass on my experiences.

What can I say, the name says it all. The kit is a marriage of a nifty set of keyer paddles made from PC board stock, with a Tick Keyer mounted on the back of the board. Add a 9V battery and it is set to go to the field or traveling. The entire board was designed to fit in an Altoids tin, (I wish I could find room for the battery, too!) for protection while traveling.

I found the hardest part of this kit was milling the holes in the circuit board pieces. The pieces are necessarily small, and several holes need to be drilled. A vice to hold the pieces is almost required for the accuracy and safety needed. I had a little trouble keeping the board pieces square to each other while soldering the edges together, but I didn't do too badly. The instructions are fairly complete, and I picked up a couple of corrections on the list before I started.

The keyer circuit is build on another small PC board that has pads created by the user carefully hacksawing away the copper in between. It works a lot easier than it sounds. That and a little manhattan-style construction are all that's needed to wire up the keyer. The good news is that it worked like a charm first time!! The paddles can be adjusted by two stainless steel screws, and before long I was sending as smooth CW as I wanted (or can:QLF).

I have been looking for a portable keyer/paddle combo and this set certainly fits the bill. And the nice part is that I can upgrade to the latest TiCK keyer version (the kit comes with version 1) by just dropping in a new chip, if I ever feel the need.

Standard disclaimer applies, no association other than a satisfied customer. I haven't seen much about this kit on the list, so I thought I

would throw my two cents in!!

The kits are available from Jay Bromley, W5JAY, in Ft Smith, AR for \$10 + \$2 shipping.

73,

Dan W1RDB
Merrimack, NH

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 20:54:09 -0400
From: Pete Burbank <plburbank@kih.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70202] Re: question for former (or present) submariners
Message-ID: <3.0.32.20000514205405.0074013c@kih.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 02:57 PM 5/14/00 -0700, you wrote:

>Seems I remember a thread a year or two ago about submarine procedures.
>And if I remember correctly, Paul reported from New Mexico, that DIVE is
>accompanied by a klaxon sounding twice, while SURFACE is a klaxon thrice.
>Do I have it correct?

Alan, This is a test of my memory but my excuse is that we only performed each procedure twice a year....Hi! (Missile boats).

Paul is probably right.

73 Pete NV4V

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 20:57:08 -0400
From: john@neknetwork.com
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70203] QRP on the Loop!
Message-ID: <391F4B64.B915C038@neknetwork.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

OK gang, finally had a QRP QSO w/the new loop antenna. W9CL in IL on 14.061. I was initially running 5w, Claude 2w. He was a solid 579, going up to 599 w/QSB. He reported me at 559 initially, but then I went to 599. I took it down to 1w, and Claude said I was about 559 w/QSB but good enough for solid copy. The band was pretty funky as was my copy - I guess I was kinda excited! Funny how you can look over your copy afterwards and see things you couldn't during the actually QSO though.

During the QSO, I switched back and forth between my dipole and the loop. Again, the loop was at good 2 S units stronger than the dipole for receiving and there was less "mud" on the loop.

I'll be on 40m here shortly for the rest of the evening. Around 7.040 +- or 7.058 +- - give me a shout if you hear me!

BTW, I'm really jazzed about this antenna, if you can't tell. :)

73,

John, KB1ENS

--

John Wagner - john@neknetwork.com

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Network Administration

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 19:51:55 -0500

From: "Walter Dufrain" <walter@inlink.com>

To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [70204] Re: Delving Even Deeper Into Loops

Message-ID: <005b01bfbe07\$cd3033c0\$788a87d1@nexar>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

John, that loop may sing better if you would find a way to just mount it in a horizontal plane. The house being surrounded by the loop is not a problem (sounds like wagon trains and Indians, doesn't it!) for the loop unless your house has metallic siding or a metallic roof. The trees surrounding the house would be my first thought of attack, for loop supports.

You may notice the Handbook states the loop formula is 1005/fMHz. Myself the 984/fMHz for horizontal and vertical loops with a feedpoint under 40 foot seems to work best. Since you are using a tuner (please say, yes!) and ladderline, then take your pick as to the correct formula and do a little experimenting.

I believe you will see the maximum radiation field in the house on the lowest frequency that the loop is cut to

operate. Should the lowest frequency be 40, 80, or 160 meters, then the loop is going to be operating NVIS on that freq. This is also when you can expect to see some telephone, TV, and computer interference, so the <5 watt output will help the interference problem. When operating your loop on bands above what it is cut to operate, then you will see a decrease of field strength inside the loop, and the outside of the loop field strength will increase.

Without getting technical, the measuring of the radiation field strength is up to you to satisfy the FCC and any neighbors, just like any other antenna.

Good luck and let us know how the loop is working.
72/73 Walter Dufrain, AG5P.....Wright City, Missouri

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 21:47:08 -0400
From: S LYON <sslyon@worldnet.att.net>
To: walter@inlink.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70205] Loops; W4RNL; patience; FUN;
Message-ID: <391F571C.B7C1E26D@worldnet.att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've had a lot of great experiences with my loops of all sizes. The two guidelines I push are:

1. Maximize the enclosed area of the loop. Rounder is better.
2. Higher is better every time. All low horiz. antennas are cloud warmers.

I'm famous for stating the obvious, but if you haven't pursued the topic on L.B. Cebik's web page (W4RNL) you're missing a LOT.

Comparisons of loops to other ants is very difficult for one rather obvious reason: you don't know where the nodes and nulls are. There will be times when you can't even hear a signal on the loop compared to a dipole beaming right on a given station. That station would be in a null on the loop.

I assure you, however, that those occasions will be much more rare than the other way around, esp. at the higher frequencies where the loop is multiple wavelengths long.

--

'Seab' Lyon - AA1MY
Beacon NY USA FN-31
QRP-L 574 ARCI 9253

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 21:53:42 -0400
From: tailfeathers@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70206] TenTec Qrp rigs?
Message-ID: <20000514.215344.-3987267.1.tailfeathers@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I was wondering what some opinions were on the 1300 series qrp radios
Ten-Tec has on the market? And can some of the keyer, freq annunciators
work with them?

Gary
n8gsj

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 22:04:59 EDT
From: J38AL@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70207] SMK-1 Lots of Fun - Thank You
Message-ID: <29.5197049.2650b54b@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, I finally got the chance to get started on this great little kit. And
now I find it hard to stop !! First I have to thank everyone involved in
getting this kit from just a thought to my bench - Thank You, Thank you,
Thank You. What fun it is. Can't wait for the SMK-2.

I made it through bag 1 with only one small :^) problem. With the blink of an
eye R18 was gone. Just taking it out of it's compartment - I know it has to

be on the bench - I heard it hit something. Oh well, over to my resistor stock. Time to open that dollar special close-out package of smt resistors from RS. Ten of those 1K res in there. Finished bag 1 and just had to start bag 2 before I quit for the night. Man - that Q3 seems HUGE now. Not sure how much time into it so far but must be about an hour and a half.

I am using a Weller WTCPT with a 700 deg .030 chisle tip and .015 silver solder. I also have some .022 silver solder but haven't tried that yet. And what makes it more fun is NO leads to trim, well almost none.

Just can't say thank you enough. Now the fear is gone - hope it works when I'm done. :-)

73, Al N2ZHS
Scotia, NY

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 23:19:29 EDT
From: n5ib@juno.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.edu
Subject: [70208] Re: SMiTe: Hunt begins Sunday!!!
Message-ID: <20000514.221612.7711.0.N5IB@juno.com>

I just worked, well, I think I just worked, err, there's a strong chance I worked, uhhh, a remote possibility exists that I might have worked, ummm, I might have imagined that I just worked K04WX on his SMiTe, right on 3686.4

I heard Michael come back with my call and copied the RST and part of QTH, but couldn't tell when he turned it back. I sent an exchange and heard his signal again but could not be sure it was an acknowledgement. So maybe I'm in the log, and maybe not - Michael will be the judge of that.

229 (optimistic) both ways, my TS430 at 5W to a 40 m horizontal loop at 15 ft that wouldn't tune to better than 3:1. Darn near ESP except for occasional 5 second "peaks." That's the first 80 m QSO (??) of any mode I've had in about 20 years.

Hey, that was a HUNT and that was fun! Thanks SMiTe guys.

72
Jim N5IB

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 23:23:00 -0400
From: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70209] Re: SMK-1 Lots of Fun - Thank You
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20000514232300.00799910@vmsspop.rit.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 10:04 PM 5/14/00 -0400, you wrote:

>
>Well, I finally got the chance to get started on this great little kit. And
>now I find it hard to stop !! First I have to thank everyone involved in
>getting this kit from just a thought to my bench - Thank You, Thank you,
>Thank You. What fun it is. Can't wait for the SMK-2.

I second the motion - this is the most fun I've had in months! I spent a little over 2 hours soldering all the parts. (Whoever suggested the bamboo skewer: thank you! That idea's a keeper.) I haven't done any checkout yet, but even if it's twice as hard as assembling the board, it'll be a piece of cake.

Dave

P.S. I dumped parts out onto a mouse pad before picking them up with a skewer. They don't bounce and skitter like on a hard bench top, but if you push down too hard they WILL launch like a tiddlywink. A very tiny, impossible-to-see wink. God had mercy on me today, though - the resistor I launched landed in my shirt pocket, where I was able to retrieve it and solder it down before it could escape. D.

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 23:24:23 EDT
From: Nv4t@aol.com
To: kc8aon@juno.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70210] Re:
Message-ID: <c.525f058.2650c7e7@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sonds like Hashafisti Scratchi to me . For those not in the know he used to write humorous articles in CQ many many years ago

Signed, NOT from Feenix

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 21:30:28 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
To: Pete Burbank <plburbank@kih.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70211] Re: question for former (or present) submariners
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10005142040520.3255-1000000@shell.rt66.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Sun, 14 May 2000, Pete Burbank wrote:

> At 02:57 PM 5/14/00 -0700, you wrote:
> >Seems I remember a thread a year or two ago about submarine procedures.
> >And if I remember correctly, Paul reported from New Mexico, that DIVE is
> >accompanied by a klaxon sounding twice, while SURFACE is a klaxon thrice.
> >Do I have it correct?
> Alan, This is a test of my memory but my excuse is that we only
> performed each procedure twice a year....Hi! (Missile boats).
> Paul is probably right.
> 73 Pete NV4V

Fellow Bubbleheads et. al.,
As I remember it, it was DIVE, DIVE followed by TWO blasts of the
claxon (i.e., "ooouga, ooouga").

Then it was SURFACE, SURFACE, SURFACE followed by THREE blasts of the
alarm.

The tradition came from the WWII diesel boats, where you had to spend
long hours on the surface charging batteries, and of course if you had
to dive, it was usually the result of an enemy aircraft coming upon you,
for which the diving evolution had to be performed post haste, and thus
to save time, the diving alarm was rung only twice, for which the control
room watertight hatch to the conning tower was supposed to be shut and
the planesman should have the bow planes in full dive by the 2nd blast.

All of my patrols were also on a missile boat (Polaris Sub), and as Pete
mentioned above, you only experience that once every few months ... once
going ON patrol and 80-90 days later when you surfaced coming OFF of

patrol. Oh yeah, tested them a time or two during the maneuvering watch :-). Today's big subs take much longer to dive and surface than the WWII boats and likely would never dive out of an emergency situation, but still, two blasts for dive, 3 for surface is still done, as are most things on a sub done out of strong tradition for those boats that never came back from patrol.

BTW, when I went to sea couple of years ago on my son's boat (the USS Nebraska, SSBN739), the diving alarm as we know it had been replaced with this awful sounding synthesized electronic thing. Yuck!

72, Paul NA5N
ET1(ss) ret.
USS Robert E. Lee, SSBN 601 (G)

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 23:33:30 EDT
From: N10DL@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70212] 4,636 Miles per Watt
Message-ID: <3b.4dd978c.2650ca0a@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I know this is no record or even close, but it was sure lots of fun. Just had a very nice QSO with Rumi, LZ2RS/qrp in Bulgaria on 14.060. He was using a K2 at 5 watts and I was using my OHR100A at 2 watts. He asked if I would go down to 1 watt. According to my WM-2, I got down to 1 watt and so did he. Not quite sure what antenna he was using, I think it was a yagi, if I heard right. My antenna is the Isotron-20 on the mast in my den, hooked up to the ZM-2 tuner. I may just have to leave the OHR100A set at 1 watt. this is loads of fun.

Aron
N10DL/qrp
Bedford, NH

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 22:36:13 -0500
From: "George T. Baker" <w5yr@att.net>
To: Nv4t@aol.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70213] Re:
Message-ID: <391F70AD.762229E0@att.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

And MANY years before that, he appeared in "RADIO" which was the pre-WWII parent of CQ magazine.

72/73, George
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE Dallas in Collin county
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 54th year and it just keeps getting better!
R/C since 1964 - AMA 98452 RVing since 1972 Kachina #91900556

Nv4t@aol.com wrote:

>
> Sonds like Hashafisti Scratchi to me . For those not in the know he used to
> write humorous articles in CQ many many years ago
>
> Signed, NOT from Feenix

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 23:39:37 -0400
From: "Victor Blackwell" <victor@brecnet.com>
To: <Nv4t@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70214] Re:
Message-ID: <001001bfbe1f\$33b31060\$4a5730d1@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hey, don't say "many, many years ago" I remember him very well.

Vic AD8K

-----Original Message-----

From: Nv4t@aol.com <Nv4t@aol.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Sunday, May 14, 2000 11:24 PM
Subject: Re:

>Sonds like Hashafisti Scratchi to me . For those not in the know he used
to
>write humorous articles in CQ many many years ago
>

>

Signed, NOT from Feenix

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 23:44:23 -0400
From: Michael C Boatright <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
To: Bob Kellogg <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>, KLQRP <KLQRP@VRAMP.NET>, QRP-L <qrp-
l@Lehigh.EDU>, NOGA QRP Club <nogaqrp@qth.net>
Subject: [70215] SMiTe: SMiTe Smitten by QRN!
Message-ID: <391F7297.C73FAA46@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, good news about being the SMiTe this early is less QRN than the
summer! Man I do dread July...8-)

Also gonna have to give my SMiTe a tune up, because the offset mod
doesn't seem to be working. Tried it out with Sam, AE4GX, across town
from me about 1/2 hour ahead of the hunt. Good thing I did. I don't
know if I would have worked anybody! At the last minute, I decided to
use my QRP+ for RX. The LO on the SMiTe was so loud, 10 minutes to post
time, I had to quickly solder in an on off switch--if it seemed like I
was really slow on the QSK, it's cause I had to turn on/off the SMiTe
and switch the antenna switch each time! About half-way through, the
power wire broke loose and I had to quickly solder it back together
(good thing I forgot to turn off the soldering iron)! I guess this was
a multiop effort on my part, with Mr. Murphy assisting in the operation!

Ran QRO at 360mW (13.5V supply) into a G5RV at 35'.

Had a great time, and worked 7 states. Man some of you guys can really
pull it out of the mud. Jim, I finally got your name, thanks for
hanging in there with me...2xQRP 229x229!

Log:

16May00 0132Z N4ROA sent 579 rcvd 449 Dan VA
16May00 0139Z N4XZ sent 569 rcvd 229 Randy GA
16May00 0152Z AE4GX sent 579 rcvd 559 Sam GA
16May00 0201Z N4SO sent 449 rcvd 229 Ken AL
16May00 0210Z WJ4P sent 579 rcvd 339 Randy SC
16May00 0220Z N4HAY sent 339 rcvd 449 Dick NC
16May00 0245Z NV4V sent 559 rcvd 229 Pete KY
16May00 0257Z N5IB sent 229 rcvd 229 Jim LA

72 de Mike, K04WX

--

Mike Boatright, K04WX
Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator,
GA Section Amateur Radio Emergency Service

A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man
contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral.
Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 23:57:52 -0400
From: Pete Burbank <plburbank@kih.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70216] Re: SMiTe: Hunt begins Sunday!!!
Message-ID: <3.0.32.20000514235748.0073fd10@kih.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Jim, N5IB wrote
>I just worked, well, I think I just worked, err, there's a strong chance
>I worked, uuhh, a remote possibility exists that I might have worked,
>ummm, I might have imagined that I just worked K04WX on his SMiTe, right
>on 3686.4

Jim,
You must have a good setup (and hearing).
It was a real struggle here too in the Bluegrass. At the 1 hour mark,
the frequency was completely silent for about 15 minutes then Mike's
signal reappeared to build steadily towards the end. I expected lots
of atmospheric noise but was surprised at such QSB.
Mike settled into a steady pace and did a fine job!
73 Pete NV4V

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 00:09:49 -0400
From: "Nick Yokanovich" <k3ny@toad.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70217] Re: question for former (or present) submariners
Message-ID: <004e01bfbe23\$6ab76580\$fbbd21a2@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

We still sound the klaxon on the Torsk (SS-423) twice for dive and three times for surface. In her retired condition though, the old boat just lays there at the pier. Once in a while we'll have a tourist come through who takes the dramatic sound effects seriously and wants to get back on the pier as soon as possible, but with only 10 feet of water below the keel, there is little to worry about.

Nick K3NY (radio op on NK3ST, USS Torsk, Baltimore)

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 00:21:26 -0400 (EDT)
From: Joel Malman <malman@world.std.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Cc: k1qm@world.std.com
Subject: [70218] [SMITE] -- no luck
Message-ID: <200005150421.AAA14417@world.std.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

SMITE Folks,

I listened quite a bit for SMITE stations.. and called CQ many times. Nothing really heard... But I think I heard a few W4 SMITE folks, but the RST's were really 119 (or less!!).. very faint signals.

I'll listen for SMITE's again next Sunday evening (0130 UTC, Monday) on 3.6864 MHz

best QRPp .. joel (queen mary)

--
/joel K1QM (K1 Queen Mary) Concord, Massachusetts
QRP-L #337, QRP-ARCI #9305, MI-QRP #1641, SOC #42

Date: Sun, 14 May 2000 21:38:09 -0700
From: "Steve Thompson" <steve@xcvr.com>
To: <N10DL@aol.com>
Cc: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70219] Re: 4,636 Miles per Watt

Message-ID: <000601bfbe27\$61aa0e80\$ef66c6d0@0017772723>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

After weeks of digging, I finally made my first *good* DX QRP this evening. Worked ES1WN at 0416z on 14.044 MHz. Kudos to August for his patience in digging my signal out of the noise -- I got a well deserved 339 report. According to the WM-1, it was 2 watts out ... so that makes this one about 2,900 miles/watt.

The kicker is ... my antenna is a High Sierra mobile vertical, mounted on my truck parked in the driveway ... with RG-8X strung through the garage, attic, and into my shack. Not bad, I say :-) Who says homeowner's restrictions put a kink on ham activity?

Patience pays off.

Steve - N7TX
steve@xcvr.com
<http://www.xcvt.com>
K2#1271 - QRP-L#259 - FISTS#3467

----- Original Message -----

From: <N10DL@aol.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, May 14, 2000 20:33
Subject: 4,636 Miles per Watt

> I know this is no record or even close, but it was sure lots of fun. Just had
> a very nice QSO with Rumi, LZ2RS/qrp in Bulgaria on 14.060. He was using a K2
> at 5 watts and I was using my OHR100A at 2 watts. He asked if I would go down
> to 1 watt. According to my WM-2, I got down to 1 watt and so did he. Not
> quite sure what antenna he was using, I think it was a yagi, if I heard
> right. My antenna is the Isotron-20 on the mast in my den, hooked up to the
> ZM-2 tuner. I may just have to leave the OHR100A set at 1 watt. this is loads
> of fun.
> Aron
> N10DL/qrp
> Bedford, NH

>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 02:36:18 -0500
From: james-rhonda@juno.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70220] SMK-1 Chirp
Message-ID: <20000515.023618.-137015.10.james-rhonda@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Gang,

I seem to have more than a slight chirp on my SMK-1. Does anyone else have what seems to be more than slight chirp and where might the problem be located? I am using a 12 volt regulated power supply. The radio has plenty of volume and is hearing plenty of signals

Thanks KC5HAC James Wayne Rue.
Henrietta, TX

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 04:51:03 -0400
From: John AE5X <ae5x@juno.com>
To: alan.kaul@worldnet.att.net
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70221] Re: question for former (or present) submariners
Message-ID: <20000515.045122.4070.0.ae5x@juno.com>

Here's the procedure:

For dive:

Over 1MC "Dive, Dive." Klaxton sounds twice, then "Dive, Dive."

For surface:

Over 1MC "Surface, Surface, Surface." Klaxton sounds 3x, then, "Surface, Surface, Surface."

John Harper AE5X (USS Barb SSN-596 1985-89)

Ex: AA5YX, KA5BBL, VQ9BL
HW-9, OHR-100A/20, NC40A, SST30, SST40, DSW20
Outdoor QRP: <http://home.att.net/~j..harper>

On Sun, 14 May 2000 14:57:00 -0700 "Alan Kaul"
<alan.kaul@worldnet.att.net> writes:
>Seems I remember a thread a year or two ago about submarine
>procedures.
>And if I remember correctly, Paul reported from New Mexico, that DIVE
>is
>accompanied by a klaxon sounding twice, while SURFACE is a klaxon
>thrice.
>Do I have it correct? Because the movie U-571 has the klaxon sounding
>three
>times and the command to DIVE-DIVE-DIVE. Did we have a dose of
>reality, or
>do I need to start taking memory pills?? Pls and tnx and best 72/73
>de alan
>
>Alan Kaul, W6RCL, LaCanada, CA
>w6rcl@amsat.org , <http://home.att.net/~alan.kaul/index.html>
>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 04:37:46 -0400
From: joe lerch <jl@early.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70222] RF exposure and twin lead
Message-ID: <00051504461800.00251@->
Content-Type: text/plain
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

After reading the posts about OSHA and rf as it applies to qrp,
I have been reading up on the rf exposure and trying a few of the online
calculators. However, I haven't found anything on feedline, especially
300 ohm twin lead and other balanced line feeds.

I used my cheap radio shack field strength meter and it appears that

my twin lead feed radiates as much as my antenna wire, does that mean I should use the feedline as my reference point for distance from the antenna? I realize at qrp levels this is still very low, but at 100+ watts would it be a concern?

Any information and links to more reading will be sincerely appreciated.

thanks in advance,

joe

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 05:46:36 -0500
From: "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
To: barmstrong@sisna.com, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70223] Re: Source of RG174?
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20000515054636.007e7220@mail.globeco.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Bob and All,

The RF connection is still listing RG-174 in their catalog.

<http://www.therfc.com/coax.htm>

Chuck Carpenter, Point, Rains County, Texas -- EM22cv, RARA #003
ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, SOC #57, Six Club #201, SMIRK #6275

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 07:54:33 -0700
From: "E. Roswell" <eroswell@monmouth.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70224] SD-20
Message-ID: <39200FA8.A9417AAC@monmouth.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sorry if this is a repeat, but I'm looking for a source for the South Bend SD-20 collapsible poles and cannot find any. Any help please?
Ed
K2MGM.

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 08:31:42 EDT
From: Wb8siw@aol.com
To: jl@early.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70225] Re: RF exposure and twin lead
Message-ID: <a2.460bd22.2651482e@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 05/15/2000 5:54:08 AM Eastern Daylight Time, jl@early.com writes:

<< Reply-to: jl@early.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU (Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion)

After reading the posts about OSHA and rf as it applies to qrp, I have been reading up on the rf exposure and trying a few of the online calculators. However, I haven't found anything on feedline, especially 300 ohm twin lead and other balanced line feeds.

I used my cheap radio shack field strength meter and it appears that my twin lead feed radiates as much as my antenna wire, does that mean I should use the feedline as my reference point for distance from the antenna? I realize at qrp levels this is still very low, but at 100+ watts would it be a concern?

Any information and links to more reading will be sincerely appreciated.

thanks in advance,

joe
>>

Hi Joe:

In my opinion, I wouldn't worry about it. As one gentleman mentioned, OSHA standards apply primarily to industry, where a worker may be exposed on a daily basis for eight to ten hours. The OET-65 standards as applied to Amateur Radio are somewhat arbitrary due to the lack of standardization in Amateur Radio installations.

As I mentioned in an earlier e-mail, when considering the hazards associated with electromagnetic exposure, one must take into account not only the power level, radiation pattern and field strength, but also the duration of

exposure. This latter point is significant.

The intermittent operating patterns of the radio hobbyist combined with the fairly low duty cycle utilized, significantly limit any hazards associated with EME. Even if you're transmission line is radiating nearby, or perhaps you're running a random wire, there should be little concern at 100 watts.

Relax....enjoy your hobby, and don't concern yourself with exposure. Now...when you buy that 1 KW amp and start to operate 6 or 8 hours a day....drop me a note and we'll talk. Of course, you might want to use that "QRO" forum!

LOL.

73, Jim WB8SIW

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 08:40:03 -0400
From: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70226] Re: RF exposure and twin lead
Message-ID: <003a01bfbe6a\$b6415910\$2d0a05cc@rochester.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

> Relax....enjoy your hobby, and don't concern yourself with exposure.
> Now...when you buy that 1 KW amp and start to operate 6 or 8 hours a
> day....drop me a note and we'll talk. Of course, you might want to use
that
> "QRO" forum!

Jim,

I've heard several reports of "big gun" stations where flocks of birds would perch on the antennas during the winter whenever the station was running RTTY or another high duty cycle mode.

How many db loss do you think a starling causes?

Dave

David Hinerman WD8CIV
Ontario, NY Grid FN13IF
dlh1009@rit.edu

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 08:53:35 -0400
From: john@neknetwork.com
To: unlisted-recipients;; (no To-header on input)
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70227] Re: Loops; W4RNL; patience; FUN;
Message-ID: <391FF34F.41F686D4@neknetwork.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I can only second Seab's recommendation on reading W4RNL's antenna articles at his website at <http://www.cebik.com> - I didn't before putting up my loop and wish now that I had. This article: <http://www.cebik.com/at11.html> is especially informative.

I can also say that I stayed up WAY too late last night reading other articles on his website, very, very informative. This probably isn't news to most of you folks, but it may be to some - go there! 73,

John, KB1ENS

S LYON wrote:

>
> I've had a lot of great experiences with my loops of all sizes. The two
> guidelines I push are:
> 1. Maximize the enclosed area of the loop. Rounder is better.
> 2. Higher is better every time. All low horiz. antennas are cloud
> warmers.
>
> I'm famous for stating the obvious, but if you haven't pursued the topic
> on L.B. Cebik's web page (W4RNL) you're missing a LOT.
>
> Comparisons of loops to other ants is very difficult for one rather
> obvious reason: you don't know where the nodes and nulls are. There will
> be times when you can't even hear a signal on the loop compared to a
> dipole beaming right on a given station. That station would be in a null
> on the loop.
>
> I assure you, however, that those occasions will be much more rare than
> the other way around, esp. at the higher frequencies where the loop is
> multiple wavelengths long.
>
> --
>

> 'Seab' Lyon - AA1MY
> Beacon NY USA FN-31
> QRP-L 574 ARCI 9253

--

John Wagner - john@neknetwork.com
Web page: <http://www.neknetwork.com>
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Network Administration

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 07:53:17 -0500
From: George F Franklin <w0av@juno.com>
To: Nv4t@aol.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70228] Re: Writer Scratchi
Message-ID: <20000515.080321.-259701.0.w0av@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hon. Ed,

Hashafisti and brother Hamafisti both 1/C writers from Feenix.

72/73/74 de George/W0AV
SOC#101

YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 06:04:12 -0700 (PDT)
From: Curt Milton <wb8yyy@yahoo.com>
To: tailfeathers@juno.com, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70229] Re: TenTec Qrp rigs?
Message-ID: <20000515130412.27512.qmail@web2002.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I just built a 1340 and really appreciate its
performance! The receiver sounds real good, although
i did match the closest four (of 6 in the kit)

crystals in the IF filter. The tuning is reasonable but maybe just a little bit "fast" - so i use the RIT to make small ~ 100-200 Hz changes in frequency.

The only possible disadvantage is this rig is bigger than many qrp rigs - the PC board is pretty small but tentec does not cut corners on the cabinets! On the good side, the rig stays put on your operating table.

When I saw the single FET mixer i was disappointed (i had expected a double balanced diode mixer...), but this thing works good! A single J310 is a mixer, T/R switch and provides a little RF gain - this approach works well since the next part is the xtal filter. It seems to have a decent intercept point.

I am sure you could put a tick keyer inside if you want. There is lots of space inside - and an extra RCA connector to boot! To install a tick inside, you probably want to add a micro-stereo connector to account for the three leads - not a problem as many have installed one of these. I decided for myself that since i like to build rigs, i am not going to put a keyer in every rig! (see P-TICK for example of an integrated keyer/paddle ... you could use the extra connector to power the keyer)

The TT 1300 series is definitely a good value. I really don't mind turning off my Kenwood and using the 1340 on 40 meters - where a good receiver is needed to battle QRM is the busy QRP band!

Curt WB8YYY

--- tailfeathers@juno.com wrote:

> I was wondering what some opinions were on the 1300
> series qrp radios
> Ten-Tec has on the market? And can some of the
> keyer, freq annunciators
> work with them?
> Gary
> n8gsj
>

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> Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE

> software, visit:
> <http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Do You Yahoo!?
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<http://im.yahoo.com/>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:10:34 EDT
From: Wb8siw@aol.com
To: dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70230] Re: RF exposure and twin lead
Message-ID: <a3.5ff11a6.2651514a@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 05/15/2000 8:41:59 AM Eastern Daylight Time,
dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu writes:

<< I've heard several reports of "big gun" stations where flocks of birds
would
perch on the antennas during the winter whenever the station was running
RTTY or another high duty cycle mode. >>

LOL Dave:

No sure how many dB loss a Starling causes, but perhaps they were seeking the
medical benefits of diathermy! hi.

73, Jim

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:13:27 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70231] I Need A QRP-Feast Ticket!
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.4.21.0005150910120.197-1000000@saturn3.acs.oakland.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

A good friend of mine has announced he is going to Dayton and would like
to join us for the banquet on Friday. Are tickets available at the door?

Please email direct - TNX

73! =paul= W8KC

Collector of Ten*Tecs and other fine plastics.

Visit the Virtual Ten*Tec Museum at:

<<http://www.acs.oakland.edu/~prvalko>>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:13:25 -0400
From: Michael C Boatright <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70232] Re: SMiTe: Hunt begins Sunday!!!
Message-ID: <391FF7F5.B902152F@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Jim,

I put you as worked in the log. I had your complete exchange, except I kept copying your name as Win...finally got it on the last try as you fell in the mud.

At 360mW, 453 miles Smyrna, GA to Baton Rouge, LA, that's 1258 mpWatt.
Not shabby for May on 80M. 229x229 -- that's tenacity!

Kinda reminds me of when I passed my 5WPM code test. I really didn't feel ready, but decided, what the heck, and gave it a shot. I had a short span where I copied fairly well, but there was no way I could pass 7 out of 10 questions. Looking back over my copy I saw that the QTH was Wackson, GA. Well, I never heard of Wackson, GA, but I'd been fishing down around Jackson, GA, so I changed the letter, and got EXACTLY 25 characters correct, in a row!

...and then I passed my 20WPM, because I swear I copied that the guy was operating on a Carolina WINDOW antenna. The VE said he heard the same thing, and gave me credit for the test...

72 de Mike, K04WX

--

Mike Boatright, K04WX

Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator,

GA Section Amateur Radio Emergency Service

A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man
contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral.
Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:15:29 -0400
From: Jim Stafford <w4qo@amsat.org>
To: qrp-l list <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70233] [Dayton] Walk-in encouraged
Message-ID: <391FF871.774AD511@amsat.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Folks,

We are three days away from Four Days in May! Over 230 people have now registered for the two main events and counting. Ken Evans, W4DU, and his small crew have outdone themselves this year. See Dayton/FDIM on the QRP ARCI web page for full details([http](http://www.qrparci.org) below). If you registered for events and sent us an SASE, you should have received your badge and tickets in the mail. Badge holders will be available after 5PM at the motel desk or at any FDIM registration table. If you did not receive yours, do not despair, you can pick up duplicates at the "show."

Here is the thing - there are events every evening that are FREE and we want you "drop ins" to sign in and get a badge. In other words, if you are NOT going to the banquet or the seminar, please register with us at any registration table, get a badge and also (just for walk-ins) you will be entered into a special contest for an MFJ QRP Cub kit. So bring a friend and come by the Ramada Inn Thu, Fri, or Sat night for the festivities (9 PM Fri and 7 PM otherwise).

Plus everyone pls bring a QSL to display on our QSL wall in the hospitality room this year and bring one to put on your motel room door. Don't have a QSL, why not make one using John McD's great QSL maker prog: <http://www.qrparci.org/arciqusl.html>

Lastly, we can still accept participants in the seminar (\$15)(nine outstanding speakers) and the awards banquet (\$25) (featuring Wayne Burdick, N6KR). Just check in at any registration desk during the weekend and sign up.

--

Jim Stafford/W4Q0/President QRP ARCI
The Thrill is Back - QRP Is! 77 -993-95
<http://www.qrparci.org> w4qo@arrl.net
<http://www.qrparci.org/pix/arci050.gif>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:17:02 -0400
From: Michael C Boatright <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70234] Re: SMiTe: Hunt begins Sunday!!!
Message-ID: <391FF8CE.E5319FFE@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Pete,

I forgot exactly when it was, but that could have been when the makeshift on/off switch for the SMiTe transmitter (added at 9:20pm, to turn off the L0 when listening on the Index QRP+) came undone, and had to be resoldered into place! But you're right...the band would come up solid, then fall back down. Nice signal from KY, though. Good solid 559.

72 de Mike, K04WX

--

Mike Boatright, K04WX
Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator,
GA Section Amateur Radio Emergency Service

A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man
contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral.
Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 06:22:50 -0700 (PDT)
From: Philip Karras <ke3fl@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70235] Re: HELP: Hammerlund, Not a QRP receiver? It is now
Message-ID: <20000515132250.26004.qmail@web2204.mail.yahoo.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I want to thank all of you for your help on the temporary QRP problem. The HQ-170 is now up & running and is unfortunately no longer QRP. :-)

It turned out to be little hands had gotten to the On/Off/Auto switch under the clock. My friend hadn't checked and I did know about it. At least two people advised me to check it, thanks.

72 & 73 de KE3FL
Phil Karras

=====
Phil Karras, KE3FL
ke3fl@arrl.net
Alt: ke3fl@juno.com
Web: <http://www.qsl.net/ke3fl>

Do You Yahoo!?
Send instant messages & get email alerts with Yahoo! Messenger.
<http://im.yahoo.com/>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 06:54:49 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jim Apple <wb1dog@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70236] Antenna recommendations for a travel trailer ???
Message-ID: <20000515135449.419.qmail@web3204.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Over the weekend I purchased a 25' travel trailer, now I looking for antenna ideas ? It has a crank up TV antenna that look like it might make a interesting support for a ham stick ? (BTW: It does not have a ladder or any easy way to get to the roof.) When camping in a wooded area I will probably go with a wire, so I'm mostly wondering what people use when they are out in the open ?

Thanks in Advance.

I will summarize the responses for the list.

- Jim WB1DOG

Do You Yahoo!?

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<http://im.yahoo.com/>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:54:41 -0400

From: Michael C Boatright <ko4wx@mindspring.com>

To: ae4ic@nr.infi.net, KLQRP@VRAMP.NETQRP-L, nogaqrp@qth.net, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [70237] SMITE: Correction to the log

Message-ID: <392001A1.F1C3FA4A@mindspring.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> 16May00 0139Z N4XZ sent 569 rcvd 229 Randy GA

Should be:

16May00 0139Z N4SX sent 569 rcvd 229 Randy GA

Correct in my log. Should have known better than to type up the log at
11:30PM after all that QRN!

72 de Mike, K04WX

--

Mike Boatright, K04WX

Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator,

GA Section Amateur Radio Emergency Service

A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man
contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral.
Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 08:58:05 -0400 (EDT)

From: "Scott Rosenfeld [N7JI]" <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>

To: qrp-1 <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>, eax@w3eax.umd.edu, cw@qth.net,

tentec@contesting.com, Laurel ARC <larc-1@webtrek.com>, pvrc@pvrc.org

Subject: [70238] Stuff for sale
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10005150855420.21736-1000000@w3eax.umd.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

The ham radio garage sale continueth...have sold some, MORE TO GO...

As of May 15, 2000 - will be traveling to Dayton, can deliver...

...can deliver in person...

HF RIGS (QRP and otherwise)

Ten-Tec Paragon 585, excellent condition. General coverage HF xcvr. Box, manual, mic, std. filters. \$950

Radio Shack HTX-100 10m SSB/CW mobile, good cond. w/box
\$125

Oak Hills Research "Classic," 20/40m QRP CW rig. Some scrapes but works well. Manual. \$170

Small Wonder Labs SW40 40m QRP CW rig w/painted factory case. Nearly perfect condition, w/manual. \$80

Ten-Tec 1340 40m QRP CW rig. Excellent cond. w/manual.
\$80

Ten-Tec 1340, not quite up to snuff. \$70

Emtech 40m QRP CW rig. Manual is somewhere around here.
\$80

ANTENNA TUNERS & WATTMETERS & OTHER STUFF

Palomar PT-340 Tuner-Tuner - for pre-tuning your antenna audibly. Excellent condition, sell for \$99 new, asking \$65. Req. 9V battery.

Autek WM-1 computing wattmeter PEP/avg computing wattmeter. Unit is in near-perfect condition physically but I seem to remember something about it not working last time I tried it a year ago. Sells for \$133 new, asking \$85 as no wattmeter is that hard to fix...I just don't have the time to think about it right now. \$85

MFJ-934 combination 300w antenna tuner / artificial ground. New in box. New price is \$169. Theoretically eliminates RF current on equipment

chassis by creating current sink on either actual ground wire or single counterpoise thrown out window, laid along floor, etc.

\$130

Nye Viking MB-VA top of the line antenna tuner. Handles many kW. Sells new for about \$850. Excellent condition, rarely used over a few watts.

\$525

AEA QT-1 antenna tuner w/wattmeter. Someone once put too much power through it and the some of the coil forms, well, melted. It's pretty much the same as B&W Airdux. However, the coil still looks like a coil, and I've used it successfully on HF and 6 meters at QRP levels. The rest of the unit is in excellent shape and the metering works fine. Has a cross-needle meter.

\$50

VHF radios

Alinco DR-610 2m/440 mobile. Excellent condition w/box, manual, \$360

Radio Shack HTX-212 50w 2m mobile FM, excellent condition.
\$150.

Radio Shack HTX-242 50w 2m mobile FM, excellent condition.
\$160.

Radio Shack HTX-202 2m handie talkie - great ham-band-only RX. Excellent condition. Comes w/battery, charger, antenna, and manual. Have one with box and two without.
\$110 ea.

Alinco DJ-F1T 2m HT w/extended RX range. Excellent condition. Comes w/battery, charger, antenna, and manual
\$140

Yaesu FT-470R 2m/440 HT, excellent condition w/battery, charger, antenna, and manual. Extended receive.
\$250

Yaesu FT-50R w/FTT-12 DVR keypad. Excellent condition w/box, etc, \$240

Radio Shack PR0-2039 base scanner, cell blocked, exc. cond. in box,\$160

Radio Shack Pro-51 handheld scanner, cell blocked, exc. cond. in box,\$160

VHF amps & accessories

Comet CF-360 HF/VHF duplexer, break point is 30 MHz.
\$45

Larsen AD2/70 2m/440 duplexer - UHF connectors
\$25

Radio Shack HTA20 30w 2m amp, exc. cond. \$45
Non-working Radio Shack HTA20, don't remember why not wkg.
\$20
Mirage B23 30w 2m amp, on/off switch installed, VG cond.
\$55
RF Concepts VHF-1-60 2m HT amplifier, 1w in gives 60w out.
\$160

Power Supplies

Lambda LNS-P-12, 12VDC @ 14A, good cond. \$75
Lambda LM-D12 12VDC @ 10A, screws missing. SIX pass xistors.
\$50
LH Research, 5V @ 150A & 12V @ 10A. \$100
Tripp-Lite PR-7B 12VDC @ 5A (7.5A surge) \$35
Video camera power pack - 12 VDS @ 2A w/cig. ltr. socket
\$35
Mitsubishi 12VDC @ 800mA underrated power supply \$25
TrippLite PR-4.5A 12VDC@3.5A (4.5A surge) \$27
Astron RS-20A 12VDC@16A (20A surge) \$70

If you have a 706 I might consider a trade as I wouldn't mind having a SPARE rig...

Offers considered but no trades, please - that's how I got into this situation :) All prices are plus shipping.

Scott Rosenfeld ARS N7JI
541-684-9970 Eugene, OR Land o' much rain
If you find me on the air, I'm probably in my car
ham@w3eax.umd.edu <http://w3eax.umd.edu/~ham>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 10:17:23 -0400
From: "g.diana" <embres@frontiernet.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70239] TiCK Keyers at Dayton Hamvention Booth #205
Message-ID: <200005151417.KAA25724@frontiernet.net>

Hello all -

Embedded Research will again be at the Dayton Hamvention!

Look for us in booth #205... we will have the full line of TiCK Keyer Chips, Kits, and Enclosures for sale and

some Dayton special pricing.

In addition, Dave Fifield AD6A of Red Hot Radio will be in the booth. He'll have a bunch of his famous "RedHotRadio's" there for sale.

If that's not enough, Doug Hendricks KI6DS will make periodic stops at the booth. Doug loves to talk QRP, so make sure you stop by and talk to him. If you have never met Doug, stop by and introduce yourself!

OK. I'll let one special out of the bag... there will be a limited number of NorCal Doublet Antennas for sale, at a buck each. There is a limited quantity of these, so stop by early!

I will be staying at the Ramada (formerly Days Inn South), and will have TiCK chips, Kits, and enclosures there as well.

73, Gary N2JGU
Embedded Research
<http://www.frontiernet.net/~embres>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:30:31 -0500
From: Ken Paulson <kpaulson@earthlink.net>
To: QRP-L@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70240] Mic connector source?
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20000515093031.007b1dc0@earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I am interested in hooking up for PSK31, and the rig blaster interface looks great. But (there always seems to be a but!) I have a couple of radios that have different mic connectors that I would like to interface to. I would plan to by the unit with the 8-pin interface for maximum flexibility, and then make adapters for radios with less than 8 pins (i.e. my Uniden with 5 pin mic connector). I have done a few web searches, and looked at Jameco and Digikey, but have not been able to identify a good source of microphone connectors (both jacks and plugs). Anyone have any tips as to a source of supply for various types, or do you generally have to go the the radio manufacturer to make sure to get the right type?

Thanks,
Ken

NOHRL

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 10:32:04 -0400
From: "John Nally" <nally@talstar.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70241] Electric Fence Loop
Message-ID: <000b01bfbe7a\$59181020\$db07fea9@r6g4f3>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, I've read the notes, looked at the websites, and studied the manual. I think that (for me, anyway) a loop is the way to go to do multi-band operation.

Next thing is to look in the kitty to see how much money is in there for supplies. Let's see....couple of quarters, some pennies, several paper-clips, and an IOU from my wife :-)

So, armed with good intentions but little cash, I went down to my friendly Lowe's and looked around. Started in the electrical dept, where they want a lot for wire.

Wound up looking at electric fence gear. They have 1/4 mile of alum wire for about \$7, they have insulators of all types. And if I can convince my neighbors that this is not a ham antenna, just an electric fence, then I am ahead in public relations department. Of course, I want to put it horizontal, and up about 30 feet. But gotta beware of giraffes....

John WB4LOQ

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:55:07 -0500
From: "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
To: <kpaulson@earthlink.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70242] Re: Mic connector source?
Message-ID: <089801bfbe7d\$a1da7020\$0200000a@mcg.net>

Hi Ken,

Try Tower Electronics, 1-800-8662-3422 they're in Green Bay, WI and I see them at Hamfests in the Minneapolis area. They seem to have every connector you can imagine. They have a small catalog and accept credit cards. I've never ordered from them but have bought the odd mic connectors at hamfests from them. They advertise same day shipping.

Hope this Helps,

73 de Cla KA0GKC

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:06:29 -0600
From: Ray Colbert <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>
To: wbl1dog@yahoo.com
Subject: [70243] Re: Antenna recommendations for a travel trailer ???
Message-ID: <39201275.66884668@rgfn.epcc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, one way is to mount a mobile whip such as the screwdriver (very expensive) on a mast that could be mounted to the hitch frame, or as you suggested, a hamstick. for multiband, you could use one of the multi-band hustler or spider type mobile antennas which have the mobile antenna for one band vertical with additional band untis screwed in at the base of that loading unit for other bands. However, one of the neatest antennas I recall seeing (I think so anyway) was in QST many years ago - when QST had a small format - and the rv was a 28 or 30 foot Airstream. The author, Phil Rand, W1DBM, mounted a 10 ft mast into a holder he had mounted on and insulated from the rear bumper, and a similar mount on the front hitch frame. From the top of each mast he had connected a wire of approximately 30 feet and base loaded the one on the rear bumper. A bit short for 80 but gives a basic end fed 50 ft antenna for most bands and with a tuner, should work better than any of the "little" mobile antennas. Something to think about.

73

Ray

--

"The more I see of the representatives of the people, the more I admire my dogs." letter from Count d'Orsay to John Foster 1850
Ray Colbert, W5XE, 00TC#3618, SOWP#1064M NARTE-NCT2 SOC#78
MI-QRP 379QRP-ARCI 5784 NORCAL 1110, El Paso, (FAR WEST) TEXAS

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Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:10:26 -0600
From: Ray Colbert <af852@rgfn.epcc.edu>
To: kc8aon@juno.com
Subject: [70244] Re: (no subject)
Message-ID: <39201362.A86E511C@rgfn.epcc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Rick, That is funny. Why don't you send it to CQ as
a reminder article of their many funny Scratchi articles
of the 50's - it IS in that vein and thanks for the humor.

73

Ray

--

"The more I see of the representatives of the people, the more I
admire my dogs." letter from Count d'Orsay to John Foster 1850
Ray Colbert, W5XE, 00TC#3618, SOWP#1064M NARTE-NCT2 SOC#78
MI-QRP 379QRP-ARCI 5784 NORCAL 1110, El Paso, (FAR WEST) TEXAS

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Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 11:27:35 -0400
From: David Hinerman <dlh1009@ritvax.isc.rit.edu>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70245] Re: Mic connector source?
Message-ID: <006101bfbe82\$1a9fcf10\$2d0a05cc@rochester.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

> I am interested in hooking up for PSK31, and the rig blaster interface
> looks great. But (there always seems to be a but!) I have a couple of
> radios that have different mic connectors that I would like to interface
> to. I would plan to buy the unit with the 8-pin interface for maximum
> flexibility, and then make adapters for radios with less than 8 pins (i.e.
> my Uniden with 5 pin mic connector). I have done a few web searches, and
> looked at Jameco and Digikey, but have not been able to identify a good

> source of microphone connectors (both jacks and plugs). Anyone have any
> tips as to a source of supply for various types, or do you generally have
> to go the the radio manufacturer to make sure to get the right type?

Ken,

Universal Radio in Reynoldsburg, Ohio (<http://www.universal-radio.com/>)
sells microphone connectors for most popular amateur radios.

Disclaimer - I am a former employee of Universal Radio. (I should know about
the connectors - I used to mis-wire packet radio cables for them.) I have no
further financial interest in the company.

Dave

David Hinerman WD8CIV
Ontario, NY Grid FN13IF
dlh1009@rit.edu

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 10:12:24 -0500
From: Karl Kanalz <KKanalz@excel.com>
To: "'nally@talstar.com'" <nally@talstar.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
<qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70246] RE: Electric Fence Loop
Message-ID: <2D343922E283D211945C0008C7A41B2A02B20B52@adntex01.adsn.dal.excel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

You also "gotta" beware of..." a loop that shoots straight up
into the ionosphere, John! Uh-huh... with a loop that close to
the ground, you are definitely going to have a VERY high angle of
radiation, but that's not necessarily a bad thing -- NVIS works well
for a lot of situations.

Do you think you could somehow string that aluminum loop up in
some nearby trees? Even if it's only 20 to 30 feet up, it would probably
work better for you as an all-round radiator (for both DX and local stuff).

Karl K - W8TIF
McKinney, Texas

-----Original Message-----

From: John Nall [mailto:nally@talstar.com]
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2000 9:32 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Electric Fence Loop

Well, I've read the notes, looked at the websites, and studied the manual. I think that (for me, anyway) a loop is the way to go to do multi-band operation.

Next thing is to look in the kitty to see how much money is in there for supplies. Let's see....couple of quarters, some pennies, several paper-clips, and an IOU from my wife :-)

So, armed with good intentions but little cash, I went down to my friendly Lowe's and looked around. Started in the electrical dept, where they want a lot for wire.

Wound up looking at electric fence gear. They have 1/4 mile of alum wire for about \$7, they have insulators of all types. And if I can convince my neighbors that this is not a ham antenna, just an electric fence, then I am ahead in public relations department. Of course, I want to put it horizontal, and up about 30 feet. But gotta beware of giraffes....

John WB4LOQ

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 07:08:10 -0700
From: "Coote, Jay" <JCoote@ci.arcadia.ca.us>
To: "'wb1dog@yahoo.com'" <wb1dog@yahoo.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70247] RE: Antenna recommendations for a travel trailer ???
Message-ID: <131CE266CAD0D211B3550008C7C9A2D51CBB31@arcadia-pd1.arcadiapd.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

I'm thinking, if you put a Hamstick at the top of the mast (or any other short vertical or whip) it will require one or more counterpoise radials.

If that is the case, you might try using the mast as a center support for a dipole fed with twinlead and a tuner- or use the mast as a support for an endfed wire and tuner. Normally, a wire antenna will be more efficient than a short whip, plus the advantage of many bands rather than a few tens or hundreds of kHz in one band.

73, Jay

W6CJ

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Apple [mailto:wb1dog@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2000 6:55 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Antenna recommendations for a travel trailer ???

Over the weekend I purchased a 25' travel trailer, now I looking for antenna ideas ? It has a crank up TV antenna that look like it might make a interesting support for a ham stick ? (BTW: It does not have a ladder or any easy way to get to the roof.) When camping in a wooded area I will probably go with a wire, so I'm mostly wondering what people use when they are out in the open ?

Thanks in Advance.

I will summarize the responses for the list.

- Jim WB1DOG

Do You Yahoo!?

Send instant messages & get email alerts with Yahoo! Messenger.
<http://im.yahoo.com/>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 10:44:16 -0500 (CDT)
From: Joe Smith <joey@joesmith.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70248] Dayton
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10005151041210.9093-1000000@nikola.joesmith.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hello, I'll be making the pilgrimage over to Dayton on Thursday. I am staying at the QRP hotel this year, so I am looking forward to the festivities. I hear that there is a lot of antenna rigging and QRP'ing going on over there, so I am looking forward to that. I plan to be at the banquet as well, I guess we are going to get the Foxhunt award there.

72, W0JOE
Tesla's Terrors

"To invent, you need a good
imagination and a pile of junk."
- Thomas Alva Edison

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 08:44:52 -0700
From: "Coote, Jay" <JCoote@ci.arcadia.ca.us>
To: "'qrp-l@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70249] Microwave Downconvertors & RF Preamps
Message-ID: <131CE266CAD0D211B3550008C7C9A2D51CBB34@arcadia-pd1.arcadiapd.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

I am looking for sources of wideband microwave downconvertors and
receiving preamplifiers.

Anyone have a phone/fax # for Down East Microwave and other USA
companies who deal in this?

73

Jay

W6CJ

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 10:28:22 -0500
From: Karl Kanalz <KKanalz@excel.com>
To: "'vintage@best.com'" <vintage@best.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
<qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70250] RE: Barrie Gilbert - Inventor of the Year
Message-ID: <2D343922E283D211945C0008C7A41B2A02B20B55@adntex01.adsn.dal.excel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

That's precisely why, Bob, I've always kept Tommy Edison in my heart as the
true best

inventor of all time --- if it wasn't for Thomas Edison's invention of the
lightbulb, we'd
all have to watch television in the dark!

Karl K - W8TIF
McKinney, Texas

-----Original Message-----

<snip>

73.

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 10:37:25 -0500
From: Karl Kanalz <KKanalz@excel.com>
To: "'vintage@best.com'" <vintage@best.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
<qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70252] Gilbert Vs. Jones & Armstrong/Colpitts Collaboration
Message-ID: <2D343922E283D211945C0008C7A41B2A02B20B56@adntex01.adsn.dal.excel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

While there may be a contest raging on between Gilbert and Jones about the "Gilbert Cell", you should also be aware that there was great collaboration between Edwin Armstrong and James Colpitts!

Together, they combined their ideas, research and development to come up with the "ArmPit Oscillator", one of the most stable (but sometimes noisy) circuits around today!

Karl K - W8TIF
McKinney, Texas

<snip>

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert P. Okas [mailto:vintage@best.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 14, 2000 12:16 AM
Subject: Re: Barrie Gilbert - Inventor of the Year

Thank Goodness that Armstrong is recognized for his contributions to the science of radio, despite de Forest's claims (who incidentally won a patent dispute against the former). <snip>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 08:56:43 -0700
From: Allan G Taylor <k7gt@qsl.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70253] Re: contact treatment for WhiteRook paddles??
Message-ID: <39201E3B.35D4@qsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

No responses from the list on how to help the WhiteRook paddles stay 'responsive'. Several asked that I share any findings but no one contributed a solution.

Maybe I will try Stainless Steel instead of the nickel plated bolts.

GT

--

Allan Taylor K7GT k7gt@qsl.net

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:15:35 -0700 (PDT)
From: "ElectronicsUSA.com" <wpc@west.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70254] Re: contact treatment for WhiteRook paddles??
Message-ID: <20000515161535.BA5CC24B65@acme.sb.west.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>Maybe I will try Stainless Steel instad of the nickel plated bolts.

>GT

GT,

The contact bolts on all our Mini-Paddles ARE Stainless Steel.

72, -Jack

Jack Roblin WA6KY0
ElectronicsUSA.com
Manufacturer of Whiterook Pocket Mini-Keys
<http://ElectronicsUSA.com>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:23:21 PDT
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70255] SMK-1: KI6DS Builds His
Message-ID: <20000515162321.91180.qmail@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

First of all, Dave Fifield is a genius!! Absolutely without question. Why?
Because of the SMK-1 kit that he layed out surface mount. I put my kit
together last night and boy am I paying for it today.

Started working at 10 minutes to eleven. Yes, I know you are supposed to
work when you are fresh, but it was the time slot that I had. My work area
was the kitchen counter. Gasp! Horrors!! The kitchen counter?? Yes, I was
doing an experiment. The counter is a clean work area, lots of space, and
there is no carpet on the floor, grin.

I have been reading with great delight all of the building reports on the
SMK-1, and tried to learn from your experiences. Here is what I did. First
of all, I found a nice deep cereal bowl, which was plain while on the
inside. As I opened a parts package, I dumped them into the cereal bowl.

Then, I very carefully opened the carrier package over the cereal bowl and dumped the parts into the bowl. Worked great.

The first parts that I put on were the 5 S023 transistors. They were a bit of a challenge, but I managed. It was a lot easier getting to the leads and pads with nothing in the way. After that, I went back to the first bag of parts and started soldering on the 13 .01 caps. Again, Dave Fifield is a sharp guy. This is a kit designed to let you practice with surface mount construction. The 1206 sized caps are perfect to practice on. Easy to work with. The best part was that you don't have to do anything after you finish soldering. NO wires to trim!! No turning over the board. I love it.

Here is the procedure that I used to mount the parts. I have revised the manual, by putting the part numbers on the bag identification layout, and it helps a bunch. I would open a parts compartment, get the part out of the carrier, and then picked it up with tweezers. But I just used gentle pressure, as I did not want to do any "SM Launching Exercises" (which are always followed by a hands and knees exercise). I put the part on the board. Then I referenced the part identification on the sheet, and found the proper place on the silkscreen. Then, I tinned one pad, just as Dave said to in the manual. I pushed the part up to the "wet" solder, and it went right on every time. I also made sure the part was properly aligned, and removed the iron. Before I touched the other end, I made sure that the part was properly aligned. This is the time to do this!! When I was satisfied with the part alignment, I rotated the board 90 degrees and soldered the other end. I know it sounds confusing, but it works better for me to rotate the board 90 degrees rather than 180.

I was just going to put a few parts on. But this was fun!! I honestly have never enjoyed building so much. I was learning a new skill, and enjoying it. It was even more fun than building the K2. Finally, I started to get tired. Looked at the clock. Oh my gosh, it is 1:15 AM! I have to work tomorrow, but I just have 3 more inductors, then the through hole parts. I couldn't resist, and put them on, except for the toroid. That will be tonight.

My thoughts on SM construction. Anyone that can build a through hole kit can build with SM using 1206 parts. Simple and easy. SM construction beats the heck out of through hole any day. The parts packaging works great. It is so handy to have the parts sorted. The pads on the S023's and the 1N4148 diodes (round ones) need to be bigger. The kitters should take the parts out of the carriers on single quantity parts. The single parts that were out of the carriers were a lot easier to work with. The manual definitely needed revision to put the part numbers on the identifier grid. Use .020 solder. Use a fine tipped soldering iron. Take your time, and be prepared to explain to your wife why you are smiling so much.

This one is a keeper guys. We will kit this one for a while, don't worry,

as the word gets around, people will want to try it. The only downer is that the new NorCal full featured surface mount rig is not finished. I want to build another kit! But I want it to be surface mount, and I want it to be build a section, test a section, like the NC20 (don't worry, the new NorCal kit will be just that type). I now believe that I can build the new NorCal kit, which will be a full featured radio with surface mount parts. I am not the least bit aprehensive, in fact, I can't wait!!

Tonight I will put the kit into the NJ QRP Club case. I will have it at Dayton, to show you.

Also, for those of you going to Dayton. I will be selling the SMK-1 and the NorCal BLT tuner at the Embedded Research/Red Hot Radio booth, #205 from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM on Friday and Saturday. If you are not going to the QRP festivities at the Ramada Inn, then you can stop by to see us at the Embedded Research/Red Hot Radio booth. The cost will be \$30 for the SMK-1, and \$25 for the BLT tuner. Both of these kits will also be available each night at the Dayton Mall Ramada Inn at the NJ QRP Club table, along with the SMK-1 Case kit, the SOP Receiver, the Tuna Tin 2, The Fireball 40, the Ft. Smith P-TiCK, Gusher antennas and the NJ QRP Homebrewer Journal.

For those of you not going to Dayton, I will be taking Jim more kits Tuesday. Place your order now, and Jim will be ready to ship when he returns from Dayton. The cost is \$30 plus \$4 shipping US & Canada, \$6 S&H Europe, and \$8 S&H Pacific rim. Send your orders with a self addressed mailing label to:

Jim Cates
3241 Eastwood Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95821

Please make check or money order to Jim Cates, NOT NorCal.

To see pictures of the SMK-1 see www.redhotradio.com and click on the SMK-1 button.

72, Doug, KI6DS

Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at <http://www.hotmail.com>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 09:26:22 -0700
From: "Coote, Jay" <JCoote@ci.arcadia.ca.us>
To: "'baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com'" <baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com>, Low Power
Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70256] RE: Helix Antenna

Message-ID: <131CE266CAD0D211B3550008C7C9A2D51CBB38@arcadia-pd1.arcadiapd.com>
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain

Some helical texts describe winding $1/2$ wavelength or other lengths on the form. I go with the winding length which works on the band I want to use. Small ham and CB mobile whips use a narrow gauge of wire, so #16 enameled will be better. You might be able to tap your form for the different bands and select the taps using a relay; perhaps diplex the really control voltage through your coax? Counterpoise can be 1-2 radials per band or a nearby metal gutter

73

-----Original Message-----
From: baltimoreemd@baltimoreemd.com [mailto:baltimoreemd@baltimoreemd.com]
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2000 8:55 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Helix Antenna

The saga continues...I see there is a vent pipe that would allow me to attach some sort of pipe(mast) to the pipe at roof line...so I would have something 20 feet off the ground.

Any thoughts on a helix wound coil on PVC as a vertical, with a set of counterpoises? I think I could get 15 to 20 feet attached to the vent pipe.

My roof is only 12 by 25, so a loop up there may not be effective.

$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t} dt = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}}$

baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com	Thom LaCosta K3HRN Webmaster
http://www.baltimoremd.com/	Baltimore's Home Page
http://www.baltimorehon.com	Home of the Baltimore Lexicon
http://www.min.net/~thom/	Home of the Drake Mailing List

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 11:19:05 -0500
From: Karl Kanalz <KKkanalz@excel.com>
To: "'k3gm@home.com'" <k3gm@home.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70257] Successful Dives and Surfacings

Message-ID: <2D343922E283D211945C0008C7A41B2A02B20B5B@adntex01.adsn.dal.excel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

I believe that submariners pretty-much follow the precepts of Navy pilots:

"A good pilot has an equal number of take-offs and landings".

For submariners, the corollary is probably true:

"A successful submariner has an equal number of dives and surfacing(s)"

Karl K - W8TIF
McKinney, Texas

-----Original Message-----

From: K3GM [mailto:k3gm@home.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 14, 2000 7:19 PM
Subject: Re: question for former (or present) submariners

<snip>

I check with my "bro" who served on the Alaska SSBN-732, and he says 3 to dive, and 3 to surface. He was quick to add that being on a "Boomer" he didn't hear that too much. He also added that the most important thing is the ratio of dives to surfaces is 1:1 (wise guy! ;-)

Tom K3GM <snip>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 11:57:45 -0500
From: Gary Lee Phillips KA9NZI <ka9nzi@arrl.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70258] Re: Mic connector source?
Message-ID: <39202C88.622015FB@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Radio Shack usually has the 8, 5, and 4 pin mic plugs and jacks, or at least they have always had the ones I needed.

Now here's a tougher one. Hallicrafters used a two-conductor screw on connector for the mic on some rigs. That's what the HT-37 I have sitting

around was equipped with, anyway. It appears to be some Amphenol thingie. The rig has a male screw thread (grounded to chassis) and a center

contact (insulated) that is just a "bump", neither pin nor socket. I presume the matching female connector screws over this thing and the center conductors are a pressure contact. I could just replace it with something else, but in the interests of keeping the rig original I've looked and looked for a source for this thing. Anyone have any idea what/where?

-- Gary Phillips, Marengo, IL <mailto:ka9nzi@arrl.net>
KA9NZI, Seneca Twp., McHenry Co., IL Grid: EN52rg
QRP-L #2124 <http://www.qsl.net/ka9nzi/>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 11:58:24 -0500
From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: JCoote@ci.arcadia.ca.us
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70259] Re: Microwave Downconvertors & RF Preamps
Message-ID: <39202CB0.AAB4885A@swbell.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

"Coote, Jay" wrote:

>
> I am looking for sources of wideband microwave downconvertors and
> receiving preamplifiers.
> Anyone have a phone/fax # for Down East Microwave and other USA
> companies who deal in this?

Down East Microwave Inc.
954 Rt. 519 Frenchtown, NJ 08825 USA
Tel. 908-996-3584 (Voice)
908-996-3702 (Fax)
<http://www.downeastmicrowave.com/index.html>

They will closing on May 17 for Dayton and will be back in office on May 23, if you are in hurry for something. You can get view catalog online or download.

73 de Dave, N0IT

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 13:01:05 EDT
From: Wb8siw@aol.com
To: KKanalz@excel.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70260] Re: Gilbert Vs. Jones & Armstrong/Colpitts Collaboration
Message-ID: <96.4d2e9b8.26518751@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 05/15/2000 11:57:37 AM Eastern Daylight Time,
KKanalz@excel.com writes:

<< Thank Goodness that Armstrong is recognized for his contributions to the science of radio, despite de Forest's claims (who incidentally won a patent dispute against the former). <snip> >>

After numerous lower court decisions in Armstrong's favor by the way... DeForest couldn't even properly explain how his circuit worked when on the witness and to add insult to injury, Armstrong lost on a technicality.

By the way, DeForest made a habit out of stealing inventions from a variety of people including Armstrong and Fessenden (the great Canadian inventor). More often than not, his companies were often built on stock fraud and deceit; a most unsavory character.

Guess it just proves that the court room is a place to be scrupulously avoided! Winning often has little to do with truth.

There was one thing about which Mr. DeForest was right however...he did once describe the business of broadcasting as "a stench in the nostrils of the gods of the Ionosphere" at an NAB convention. Guess no one is wrong 100 percent of the time.

73, Jim WB8SIW

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 13:10:35 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <baltimoreemd@baltimoreemd.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70261] Re: Helix Antenna
Message-ID: <004e01bfbe90\$f0177360\$2101a8c0@insydesw.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The helical antenna is not the great mystery that everyone thinks it is. It is simply a continuously loaded antenna. I have built several very successful helical antennas, although I always used the dipole form factor not the vertical. I have used the Hamsticks and the Outbacker though and can say they work.

The secret to making a working antenna is not to try to shorten the antenna too much. If you reduce the antenna length to say 20 feet overall at 7 MHz, where a 66 foot length is more normal, the antenna will exhibit a very small bandwidth. And helical antennas have very low radiation resistances. I found they can be tuned with a tuner and also respond very well to feedpoint matching devices like the Gamma Match.

I would try to keep the length within 1/2 half size of the full sized antennas. Wind a full half-wavelength of wire on a former to make a quarter-wave element. Actually a few more feet wouldn't hurt, you can always use your sidecutters to tune it! Put it up in place and resonate it using a grid dipper or antenna analyzer. I wouldn't try to make a multi-band antenna out of it. Build it for one band and use a tuner to try to resonate it elsewhere.

As far as the CB whips go, they are wound with very fine wire. I have used them for antenna ends on a 20 meter dipole. I made three sections, each one meter long. Two CB whips and a hand wound center section. I used a Gamma Match and worked all continents with the antenna mounted about 10 meters above ground in the attic of my house in Holland.

They do work. It can be done. Just remember, people will laugh at you (girlfriends and such like) and they will require some experimentation to get them right. But, that said, they are worth the effort!

Oh, I used #18 wire.

73

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 10:29:24 -0700

From: Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com>

To: "'qrpl'" <qrpl@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [70263] Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?

Message-ID: <87568F78ABDCD211A0AC0008C707718B029D0EE5@az10exm03.sat.mot.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

I could really use a spectrum analyzer for my homebrew HF QRP projects.
I understand that the HP140T is reasonably priced on the used market.

Anyone have any recommendations for a good source
for these things?

Thanks much!

- Dan Tayloe, N7VE; Phoenix, AZ; Az ScQRPions

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 12:38:18 -0500
From: "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70264] Re: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
Message-ID: <08f701bfbe94\$6dd24fc0\$0200000a@mcg.net>

Please respond to the list on this as there are others out here (me) that
would be interested in sources as well.

----- Original Message -----

From: "Tayloe Dan-P26412" <Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com>

| I could really use a spectrum analyzer for my homebrew HF QRP projects.
| I understand that the HP140T is reasonably priced on the used market.
|
| Anyone have any recommendations for a good source
| for these things?

73 de Cla KA0GKC

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 10:48:49 -0700
From: "Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" <Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.edu'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70265] 2-56 Nuts
Message-ID: <60F1FEB31CA3D211A1B60008C7A45F430997FED6@blaze.bcsc.GOV.BC.CA>
Content-return: allowed
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Thanks to all who replied to my request for 2-56 nuts. I'll check with my
local hobby shop. If they don't have any, I'll get back to the list and ask
those who offered to send some along. Thanks again.

Doug VA7DD

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 14:10:43 -0400
From: "Richard E. Robinson" <rerobins@email.uncc.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70266] Re: HQ170 Alignment
Message-ID: <v03102806b545ebd32dbb@[152.15.144.71]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

The manual for my Hammarlund HQ-150 states that an RF/sweep generator should be used in aligning the IFs. I don't know if this is the case with the '170 and '180 manuals, but I think a sweep generator would be best for them also.

72,

Rick kf4ar Hammarlund lover/user

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 11:14:14 -0700
From: Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com>
To: "'tjarey@home.com'" <tjarey@home.com>, "'qrpl'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70267] Proper measurement question
Message-ID: <87568F78ABDCD211A0AC0008C707718B029D0EE9@az10exm03.sat.mot.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

The solar panel is the easiest. Place it in full light and measure the short circuit current and the open circuit voltage. This gives the equivalent series resistance of the panel (shorting it will not hurt it).

$R = V(\text{open circuit}) / I(\text{short circuit})$.

That will allow you to calculate the charging current into a lead acid battery.

$I_{\text{charge}} = [V(\text{open circuit}) - 13.8] / R$

My favorite camping solar panel is about 9" x 9" and has an open circuit voltage of about 18v and 175ma short circuit. At that kind of current, it is too much power to use without a regulator. I once just clipped it across my 4AH gell cell during one field excursion. At 40ma RX draw, I soon found the battery at 15v (!). I spent the rest of the contest with a voltmeter across the battery, connecting and disconnecting the array as needed to keep the battery topped off.

I even placed it in partial shade (from the tent), and misaligned it with the sun to further reduce the charge current!

All in all, a solar panel weighs less than carrying a larger gell cell and I highly recommend using one, just don't get one too large! For QRP, it seems to me that a 2w panel is about right, even for a K2.

- Dan Tayloe, N7VE

I have an interesting situation that may apply to other folks. I have come into possession of a solar cell array and a gel cell of unknown parentage. They are also unmarked. What is the best way to measure the ampere/hour output of the solar cell AND the ampere/hour capacity of the gel cell given no other information that the terminal markings. I expect this is really not that hard but since I've never done it before I figure I'd ask the group it's thoughts on the subject.

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 14:35:40 EDT
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70268] PSK-20 on the air
Message-ID: <48.56e38ea.26519d7c@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

You have been reading about PSK31, the narrow band digital mode that uses most any computer and sound card, together with your SSB rig. If you don't know about it, just look at the May QST article, which also gives the URLs for downloading the necessary free software.

Among the best softwares out there is a program called Digipan. Digipan has a large spectral display that covers about 4kHz . Since on 20 meters, the 4kHz from 14069 to 14073 is where the PSK31 activity is concentrated (this little slice can hold many QSOs if the folks have their transmitters adjusted properly), you can put the transceiver on one spot and allow Digipan to do all the tuning. You put the indicator on a signal in the spectral display, click the mouse, and the built in tuning system in Digipan will do the rest.

Now for the neat part. The new SWL PSK-20 is a \$95 board kit that is crystal controlled to cover the 20 meter bandwidth of the PSK31 activity. This board, connected to your computer running Digipan functions as a complete PSK31 transceiver. No need to tie up your main transceiver for this stuff. QRP of 2 watts or so is plenty for most QSOs in this narrow band mode. A very very neat way to get on the new mode for cheap. Picture a rig with no knobs and no moving parts. Just a box with connectors on the back. I have been making contacts all over Europe and the US now, with no problems. Signal reports are consistently very good and surprising high (RST 589 common). Very nice way to operate, and rag chewing is easy. Dave Benson of Small Wonder Labs says he is starting to ship already so contact him at NN1G@earthlink.net for ordering info or see his website at www.smalwonderlabs.com. No, I don't work for Dave, and I pay for my SWL stuff like everybody else. It does give me a lot of pleasure though reporting on a very good product.

72,

Preston Douglas WJ2V

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 13:51:55 -0700
From: Michael Melland <badger@vbe.com>
To: Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70269] Re: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
Message-ID: <3920636B.84A901E3@vbe.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Tayloe Dan-P26412 wrote:

> I could really use a spectrum analyzer for my homebrew HF QRP projects.
> I understand that the HP140T is reasonably priced on the used market.

Dan,

I purchased a HP140T (normal persistance...the HP141T is the

storage/variable persistence version) with the 8552B IF section and 8553B RF section (good to 110 MHz) and really have enjoyed it. "Reasonably priced" depends on your definition. Currently calibrated 140 frames and plug ins go for between \$1000 and \$2000+ yet these days. If you are willing to take a chance...and have the ability (or a friend) who can repair one of these if there is a problem , they can be found for \$500 to \$1000 on (no flames ...please) eBay. Parts can be a problem..... I purchased my frame and two plug ins there about 9 months ago for \$256. No idea why it went so cheap..... I had noticed a problem getting a calibrated amplitude at times after I owned it awhile, a problem with the with the 8552B band pass filter... so a friend down in Texas who used to own a large cal lab (now a one man operation in retirement) has it and is repairing it and calibrating it for me very reasonably..... There are lots of these semi retired cal guys out there with loads of parts units..... I know this guy has 10 8640B generators at any given time as parts units. Parts from HP are insanely expensive..... try \$250 for just the glass scale cover for the 8553B !! Or \$250 for the operators manual !! If you get one there are lots of other resources. My repair with parts will be under \$75 in total and my Instruction manuals were had for \$25.

The 140 series spectrum analyzer is a great tool..... but remember you'll likely need a calibrated attenuator, tracking generator, and other "tools" at some point <grin> to go with it. I've found test equipment as addicting as qrp gear

Mike Melland, W9WIS

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 11:53:56 -0700
From: Jim/Julia <w7ls@blarg.net>
To: Doug.Davies@gems3.gov.bc.ca
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70270] Re: 2-56 Nuts
Message-ID: <392047C4.BD0F31CB@blarg.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Radio Shack has them, as I recall. Jim

"Davies, Doug A FOR:EX" wrote:

> Thanks to all who replied to my request for 2-56 nuts. I'll check with my
> local hobby shop. If they don't have any, I'll get back to the list and ask
> those who offered to send some along. Thanks again.
>

> Doug VA7DD

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 13:02:22 -0600
From: carlos.caro@lmco.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70271] RE: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
Message-ID: <D0A28D7EFEB4D11181DE0000F80627BB023A46FB@EMSS02M14>
Content-return: allowed
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Dan,

If you get a S/A it will open a whole new RF world for you. One caution I would give is that the input mixer in the HP unit is very sensitive to input level. You can easily burn it out. In addition to using directional couplers to sample signals I also used a good X10 scope probe to attenuate the signal levels. Replacing the mixer was as expensive as replacing the CRT at one time.

Regards,

Carlos #1333

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 14:15:14 -0500
From: Gary Lee Phillips KA9NZI <ka9nzi@arrl.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70272] Re: Mic connector source?
Message-ID: <39204CC2.C120DF94@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Talking to myself, eh?

Thanks to several who have responded to my piggyback query. One even supplied the old Amphenol part number for the appropriate female connector: 75-MC1F. (The panel mount mating item was 75-PC1M.)

Suggested suppliers included Digikey, Mouser, Allied Electronics, and Newark. Alas, all four struck out with that part number.

-- Gary Phillips, Marengo, IL <mailto:ka9nzi@arrl.net>
KA9NZI, Seneca Twp., McHenry Co., IL Grid: EN52rg
QRP-L #2124 <http://www.qsl.net/ka9nzi/>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 15:29:26 -0400
From: Michael Ostrowski <mostrowski@CreativeSolutions.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70273] >>> Last call - Dayton Hamvention Vendors <<<
Message-ID: <C17F1AF032ECD21180C100A024BB8E2E0204D0A3@bruiser.creativesol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Last chance to make this list.
I'll post it tomorrow afternoon.

So far I've heard from most QRP "inside vendors",
but have had only three "outside vendors" respond.

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Ostrowski [<mailto:mostrowski@CreativeSolutions.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 08, 2000 4:15 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Dayton Hamvention Vendors

I'd like your help in compiling a list of "QRP friendly" vendors
for the Dayton Hamvention.

If you are a vendor which will be exhibiting/selling QRP wares,
or items which might be particularly interesting to us QRP folk,
please send me a note at KI8IK@arrl.net which includes:

1. Vendor name (or call)
2. Booth # (if known)
3. General description of interesting items.

Even if you're not vending, but know of vendors/items the rest
of us shouldn't miss please pass that info along also.

ANY vendor is game...

Clubs.
Kits.
Keys and keyers.
Used QRP gear.
CW keys and keyers.
Portable HF antennas.
QRP books.
Gell cells/chargers/solar cells.
Workbench supplies/soldering stations.
Parts for homebrew (transistors, var caps, crystals, PCB stock)

Please don't assume someone else has already submitted an item. I'd rather get buried in duplicates than miss a great lead.

** I'll post the results to the QRP-L reflector on Tuesday, May 16 **

Of course this vendor list could never be complete. Hopefully it will help those who have a limited amount of browsing time find what they need, and point others in new directions.

72,
Mike

Michael Ostrowski - KI8IK
Saline, MI

NorCal === ARCI QRP #10255 === MI QRP #M-1693 === QRP-L #2170
KI8IK@arrl.net

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 15:37:43 -0400
From: "Richard E. Robinson" <rerobins@email.uncc.edu>
To: Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70274] Re: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
Message-ID: <v03102809b545fca82437@[152.15.144.71]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I purchased my HP-8558B spectrum analyzer at the Charlotte Hamfest in March from Bob Garcia, KD4JRT, who is from Marietta, GA. The '8558B uses the 182T frame, and is a little newer version, circa 1980, than the ones that use the 140T. There are lots of used test equipment dealers who advertise

in Nuts and Volts magazine and the prices vary widely. I have no experience in dealing with any test equipment dealers other than Bob Garcia who is great to do business with.

I ordered the original service/operator's manual for my '8558B from Jack at Manuals Plus for \$50. No telling what HP would charge for one but I'm sure it wouldn't be that cheap. Usual disclaimers apply, I'm just a satisfied customer of Jack's.

<http://www.manualsplus.com/index.html>

A good non-absorbing 20dB attenuator/coupler can be made from a type 43 toroid with a one turn primary and a 10 turn secondary. See "Solid State Design" or the Jan. 2000 QQ for the plans. It's very simple and works fine.

Does anyone know of a spectrum analyzer primer on the web similar to Tektronix's primer on oscilloscope operation? The spec an is more versatile than I am knowledgeable about it's operation.

72,

Rick kf4ar

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 15:48:42 -0400
From: "Ken Evans" <w4du@bellsouth.net>
To: "QRP-1 Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70275] DAYTON
Message-ID: <006e01bfbea6\$938cf3c0\$bbdafea9@evans>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,
Everything seems to be set for FDIM. Many of us are arriving on Wednesday evening. We have arranged to have the Miamsburg room available Wednesday evening for a social gathering place.

We will open the doors for the seminar at 7:15 AM (The door being the ballroom). You can get your name tag (if you havent already received it)

and copy of the proceedings then. We will start the day at 8 AM. Here is the schedule:

8 AM Introductions Jim W4Q0, Ken W4DU

8:15 AM L.B.Cebik - "The VOMBA Antenna"

9:15 AM George Dobbs - "The Super Gainer Regen"

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM Charles Moizeau - "Wire Antennas: Getting Them Up & Keeping Them Up"

11: 30 AM Break for lunch

After lunch we will go to split sessions- the room will be divided in two and we'll have two talks going at the same time. This is an "experiment" to see if we can present more information in the day and also in response to a request to have so called designer and educational tracks.

1:30 PM Rick Campbell (Bill Kelsey) - Designer "Developments In DC Receivers

Joe Everhart - Educational - "Simple Antennas for QRP"

2:30 PM Jim Kortge - Designer - "The 2N/22/6"

Ed Breneiser - Educational - "QRP Dxpeditons"

3: 30 PM Break

3:45 PM Dave Benson - Designer - "PSK 31"

Mike Branca - Educational - "The GA Sierra Project"

4:45 PM Closing Remarks

There will be some prizes and surprises! See you there.

72/3,
Ken Evans, W4DU
Atlanta, GA
QRP ARCI #696; G-QRP; NORCAL;NOGA; ARRL-Life

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 14:45:54 -0500
From: "James P. Osburn, P.E." <j.p.osburn@ieee.org>
To: "List; QRP, QRP Mailing List" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70276] Re: SMK-1 Web Photos of my work
Message-ID: <001001bfbea6\$2f2ead60\$bf365a3f@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have almost finished bag 2. I haven't done the electrolytic, trim caps, and toroid from bag 2 yet. But here is a picture of everything else.

<http://www.indiana.net/~wd9eyb/smk/bag2.jpg>

Here is a close-up around C6.

<http://www.indiana.net/~wd9eyb/smk/c6.jpg>

Hopefully it shows that I have installed everything correctly including the infamous U3 with the beveled edge.

This link shows all my work so far.

<http://www.indiana.net/~wd9eyb/smk/>

Jim, WD9EYB

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 12:59:23 -0700
From: gsurrency@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70277] VOM wanted
Message-ID: <20000515.125923.-369935.0.gsurrency@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm looking for a Triplett model 630-NA or similar meter. Someone on this list had one a while back. Please contact me if you have a such a meter for sale. Thanks!

73,

Gary Surrency AB7MY

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 16:06:50 -0400
From: "Hare, Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.edu>
Subject: [70278] RE: Sources for used Spectrum Analyzers?
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC3E1C2B@mail.arrl.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

For a cheap S/A kit, see:

<http://www.science-workshop.com/>

73,
Ed Hare, W1RFI

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 17:06:25 EDT
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
To: khopper@uchicago.edu
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70279] Re: PSK-20 on the air
Message-ID: <b4.552cd82.2651c0d1@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Ken,
I am copying in the list, as I hope my info will be useful to others.
You are asking for essentially a full review, which I have to leave to
others, since I was after all an early beta tester. I know how you feel
about wanting to be involved in the testing--it is fun.

The rig does not drift at all, as far as I can tell; the third connector is a
parallel connector for amplified speakers. The four or so toroids are plug
easy, and do not use magnet wire. Small caliber, ordinary insulated wire is
used for positive connections. This obviates the need for scraping, chemical
dips, etc., as there is no enamel insulation to deal with.

There are good instructions in the kit for properly adjusting the audio to put out a clean signal, and basically, you can do a decent job of it by using your wattmeter and following instructions. I find that most sound cards are inherently unstable insofar as their volume controls--they come up at different levels each time I boot, so adjustment is necessary with my computer (and my laptop too) to get the audio right. Takes 15 seconds when you start up. No big deal.

My final does not get hot, though the sink gets warm with a long over.

The rest, I leave to my betters.

Oh, and please note that I gave a wrong URL for SWL. It should be:
<http://www.smallwonderlabs.com/>
and I know this is correct this time as I copied off my URL window with SWL on the screen!

Anyway, it's a good deal for about a hundred bucks.

72,

Preston WJ2V

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 15:04:28 -0600
From: "Rod, N0RC" <n0rc@qsl.net>
To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: <nn1g@earthlink.net>
Subject: [70280] PSK-20 from Small Wonder Labs, a betabuild review
Message-ID: <00f301bfb1\$4df8c0e0\$b3101004@compaq>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks, here is my review of Dav'e new rig. It it I reference pages on my website, I'll have those up by weeks end. -rc-

INTRODUCTION

Like many I've been wanting to try PSK31. Until now I've procrastinated, never making time to work out the details for using an existing rig. Then I was offered a chance to be a beta builder for Dave Benson's new PSK-20, from Small Wonder Labs. I jumped at the opportunity.

The PSK-20 is a 20 meter monoband transceiver, simplified and specialized for PSK-31 making it very easy to get "PSK-31 active". Dave has cleverly engineered this rig to be simple to construct, easy to align, even easier to setup (no special cables to make!), and is tailored to use one of the best and newest PSK-31 software packages--DigiPan.

The PSK-20 is available now, you can see and read about it at the Small Wonder Labs web site <http://www.smallwonderlabs.com>

To learn more about PSK-31 a good place to start is <http://www.psk31.com>. There you will find articles describing the mode and other useful information. Click on the "software" link, it will lead you to the home page for DigiPan where it can be downloaded. DigiPan is the suggested software for the PSK-20, but Dave tells me the rig can work with other software as well. I found DigiPan easy to learn and use. The online Help file are, well, actually helpful! You can jump directly to the DigiPan download site at: <http://members.home.com/hteller/digipan/>

CIRCUIT OVERVIEW

The PSK-20 is a dual conversion rig with a very wide passband, about 3.5-4MHz. The DigiPan software handles the details about picking out individual signals from the passband.

The first RX mixer converts incoming 14Mhz signals down to 9Mhz using a 5MHz local oscillator; that feeds a 4 pole crystal filter and IF amp. From there the signal is mixed with a 9MHz Local oscillator to get down to audio frequencies, which in turn are fed to you computer's sound card. The audio signal is sampled and converted into an AGC signal that controls the IF stage gain.

Going the other way, audio signals from the sound card are first mixed with the 9MHz LO filtered then mixed the 5MHz LO to produce the 14Mhz destined for the PA and your antenna. This is the clever part of the design, no complicated SSB circuits to build and align. Power out from the PA is about 3W PEP. More than enough for worldwide PSK-31 communications with even the most basic antenna.

Remaining circuitry on the board handles TR switching and the RS232 interfacing to you computer.

More details are available in DSW-20 manual and an up coming QST article.

CONSTRUCTION

Quoting from Dave's webpage, "It's [PSK-20] been streamlined for ease of construction and alignment...". All I can add is HOW TRUE IT IS! The kit contains about 220 parts, four are surface mounted, of those, one is premounted. The remaining three are large easy to install inductors--piece of cake, and a simple way to get your feet wet with surface mount construction.

For me the parts seemed to just fall together in the nine assembly groups presented in the manual. Each group took about 45-60min. and that includes the time it took me to proof read the instructions for factual errors and missing steps (remember, I was a beta builder charged with this duty). Like all of Dave's kits each group is accompanied with a detailed drawing of the board section you are working on, to help locate parts. When special attention is required to mount a part or carry out an assembly sequence, all the information you need is right there in a clear and succinct manner.

The early version of the manual I was working with referenced intermediate tests to check your progress. But the details were not available at this early stage, so I can't tell you about them.

I can tell you that I did figure out a few of my own, like measure the output voltage of the 8V regulator installed early on. I also paused when I realized I had the RX section complete. I thought what the heck let's see what I can hear. At that time my understanding of the RX was pretty neophyte, put another way, I didn't have a clue ;-). But with a little experimenting I coaxed it into operation and was copying PSK31 transmissions from other amateur stations! Now most of us know the legends and lore of the K2 Mojo. Well after this I got to thinking the PSK-20 has a little magic of it's own, and for some reason I thought of an old blues song/album HooDoo Woman. That did it for me, I hereby dub this "the HooDoo rig". (When you hear the audio of PSK31 sigs from this rig you will understand better how well the name fits.)

For those of you who are charter member of the "Fear of toroid winding club" FEAR NOT! There are only four toroids to wind, one is a bifilar transformer with only four turns. To make it easier still, Dave chose not to use magnet wire, instead you wind the toroids with insulated solid copper wire, supplied with the kit of course. No enamel removal, tinning....just strip away the insulation, insert in board and solder. (You receive a length of "4-cond telephone wire". You remove the four strands, each a different color, and use those.

When your done you have toroids with different colored wire installed that add to the HooDoo of the rig.)

When you complete the assembly your done, no chassis wiring to do. All the connectors are board mounted, audio, power, antenna...everything!

HOOKUP

Not much to say here. you connect the PSK-20 to your computer's microphone input, speaker output and RS232 serial port. The cables to do this are available at Radio Shack and other electronics parts suppliers, likely you have what you need at home right now. All you need is two stereo cables with 1/8" (3.5mm) plugs. The Serial cable is a DB9 on the radio side and a DB-"whatever" to match your computer. Now I know what you thinking RS232 is a pain to find the correct cable and connector pin-out". If you use DigiPan the problem is minimized all you need is DTR and ground.

(I enjoyed this aspect of the rig. My first job in electronics was making cables. I made hundreds. To this day I dread the task!)

ALIGNMENT

Alignment is straight forward too. Like Dave's other designs he uses tunable coils/transformers. You do the RX first. With the rig connected to your computer and an antenna you peak a coil in the RF stage, for maximum audio in the computer speakers. (Just like tuning the DSW series rigs from Small Wonder Labs)

The first local oscillator is then adjusted to center the "noise display" in the DigiPan screen. The second LO is then adjusted by transmitting a signal from your "big rig". This signal is visible in DigiPan as a bright line. You adjust the second LO to position that line on the correct tick mark on DigiPan's frequency display. Easy, the process takes less time to do than it does to describe.

(Check my web page <http://www.qsl.net/n0rc/psk31> for DigiPan screen dumps to see what I'm talking about.)

Next the transmitter. Connect the PSK-20 to a dummy load, press DigiPan's TX button and adjust two more coils. Each coil has it's own associated test point that you measure with a voltmeter. That's all there is to it.

(If you have a wattmeter like the WM-1/2 you can use it to peak the output power while adjusting the coils.)

One more "touch of class" a small tuning tool, for the coils, is included with the kit.

A few more minor adjustments to get the audio levels set and you ready to operate.

OPERATION

Operating the PSK-20 is done from your computer via DigiPan. DigiPan is very easy to learn. It's windows based and mouse driven. One section of the screen displays all received signals, you click your mouse on one to receive it. See my web page above for a screen dump of DigiPan receiving signals off the air. When "tuned-in" to a signal the transmitted message appears at the top of your screen.

To transmit a message you type your message into DigiPan's TX screen, press the TX button, message sent! A macro feature of DigiPan simplifies sending of repetitive messages like CQ, sig reports, equipment lists...etc. You can even send the contents of a file or a picture. Those details I'll leave as an exercise to the reader. (Write me for assistance if you want to).

I've yet to complete that elusive first QSO. I answered a CQ from an Alaskan station, got a callback but messed up on the keyboard getting back to him. (I was in RX mode! ARRRRRRGH!!!!) He moved on to another station. Similar results with a Portland OR station. Reminds me of those nervous fumbling moments of my first few Novice Class contacts. I'll get it sooner or later.

The RX on this rig is great, while tuning around the last few days I've copied QSOs from all over the USA, Europe and the South Pacific (New Caledonia!). For a frame of reference I don't have much of an antenna, an attic mounted multiband doublet.

(The PSK-20 draws about 90ma in RX mode and about XX in TX, making this a battery friendly rig. Later this summer, I hope to load it, my laptop, and an antenna, into the car and find some nice location in the mountains to work from.)

CONCLUSIONS

In my humble opinion, "another winner from Newington", atta boy Dave.

If your looking for a simple inexpensive way to give PSK-31 a try, and enjoy building kits, consider giving the PSK-20 a try. You won't be disappointed. The PSK-20 is simple to build and get working. The software it's tailored to work with is equally simple to operate, and I didn't mention yet, DigiPan is FreeWare!. Together they are a dynamite combo to get you into PSK31.

72/3 Rod, NØRC -- Fort Collins, CO

GOT HOODOO?

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 17:33:57 EDT
From: Wn4i@aol.com
To: w1rfi@arrl.org, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70281] Re: The cheapest S/A
Message-ID: <5b.5d4dcfe.2651c745@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For many yearsI am using my Collins General Coverage receiver 51J4 or any well Frequency calibrated receiver or Tranceiver with a good SMeter . Simply use the 1khz or better filter and DO THE SCANNING Khz by Khz with your hand turning the main dialhi ...hi Yes it is that simple . Now you have to keep track of the power levelI use a Bird 50 ohms Dummy Loadjust before the input of itYou can buy a coaxial adjustable coupler from BIRD (that screws on one side of the model 43) or make one yourself .use a coaxial "T" with the center pin (the vertical bottom of the "T") unscrewed and replace it so you can adjust the amount of coupling (without touching) to the top parts of the "T"You can also use a small tin can with 3 BNC jacks and the one going to the Receiver is nothing else but a 50 ohms 1/2 watt resistor going to ground with the 2 leads long enough so you can adjust the amount of couplingthe resistor very close to the hot wire as needed to please your SMeterI recommand a 100 dbs toggle switch steps attenuator at the input of the receiver to do the SMeter adjustment reference (usually S9) now you have to calibrate the coupling and the step attenuator to do the jobLet say you are putting 10 watts in the dummy load ,with the step attenuator at 100 db adjust the amount of coupling to get S9 or less.....and from now on use the 100 db to keep track of the attenuation versus any frequency move in Khz.

Just in case you like the idea

73

Yves Wn4i

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 15:17:03 PDT
From: "Doug Hendricks" <ki6ds@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [70282] Dayton QRP Hospitality Schedule Suggestion
Message-ID: <20000515221703.62005.qmail@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

I looked on the list of registrants for fdim, and found that 42 people were registered for the seminar but not for the banquet. Jim Stafford posted earlier that the hospitality room would not open until 9:00 PM on Friday night. The last time that I was at Dayton, there was almost a riot because the banquet went long, and people were really irritated at having to wait to get into the rooms. Would it be possible for the hospitality room to be open at 7 PM on Friday night also for those who are not attending the banquet? Not everyone goes to the banquet, and the others would enjoy having the use of the room at 7 so as to not have to wait around until 9.

Flame suit on. 72, Doug, KI6DS

Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at <http://www.hotmail.com>

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 15:28:48 -0700
From: Allan G Taylor <k7gt@qsl.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [70283] Re: PSK-20 from Small Wonder Labs, a betabuild review
Message-ID: <39207A20.2F2F@qsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I suspect the bandwidth of the rx, while being 'wide', isn't really 3.5 MHz wide... Try 3.5 kHz.

.....
The PSK-20 is a dual conversion rig with a very wide passband, about 3.5-4MHz. The DigiPan software handles the details about picking out individual signals from the passband.
.....

But of course everyone knew that anyway.

It sounds like a fun kit.

--

Allan Taylor K7GT k7gt@qsl.net

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 15:34:29 -0700
From: "daveb1" <daveb1@azbz.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70284] Test, Do Not Read
Message-ID: <007101bfbebd\$cc56cc00\$94bd40d8@daveb1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Testing to see if I am able to post yet.
Dave, kk7re

Date: Mon, 15 May 2000 15:38:59 -0700
From: "daveb1" <daveb1@azbz.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [70285] SMK-1 #'s
Message-ID: <008701bfbebe\$60c5c260\$94bd40d8@daveb1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

How does one determine the 'number' of their SMK-1?

Thanks in advance,

Dave, kk7re
Glendale, Az
daveb1@azbz.com

End of QRP-L Digest 1822

